


WI  
B519h  
1882



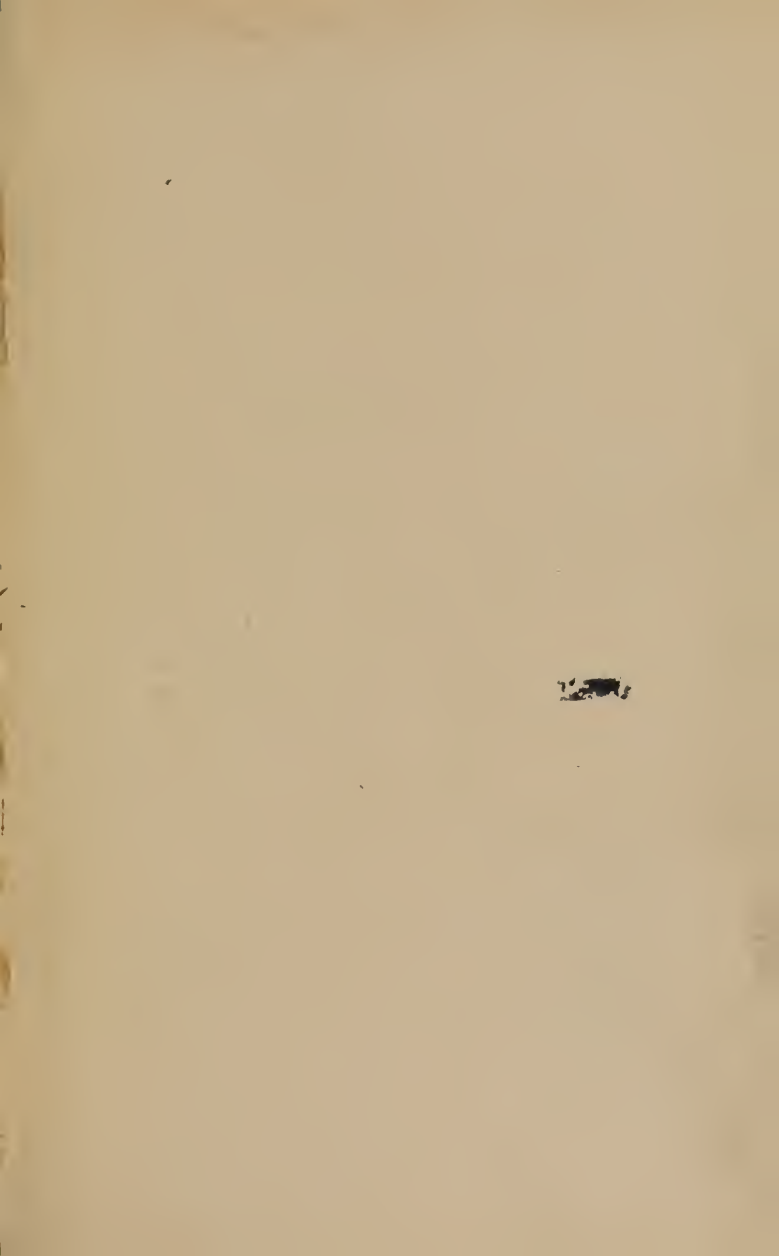
NLM 00138063 2

SURGEON GENERAL'S OFFICE

**LIBRARY.**

  
*Section,*

*No. 113774.*





THE  
HOMŒOPATHIC TREATMENT  
OF  
CONSTIPATION.

BY  
H. BERNARD, M.D.,  
MONS, BELGIUM.

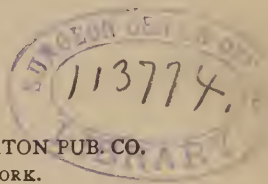
*Translated and Revised from the second Belgian edition, with  
Additions and Clinical Cases from American sources,*

BY  
T. M. STRONG, M.D.

---

W. A. CHATTERTON, A. L. CHATTERTON PUB. CO.  
CHICAGO. NEW YORK.

1882.



WI  
B519  
1852

## PREFACE.

---

THE greater portion of the subject matter in the present edition has been taken from the work of Dr. Bernard, but has been placed in a form corresponding to the well-known work on diarrhœa by Dr. Bell. No reason for using this form need be given to American physicians, so long acquainted with the work above mentioned.

The matter contained within brackets and the Repertory entire, has been added.

It is desirable that the members of the profession, promptly point out important omissions and errors, and also furnish additional verifications.

T. M. S.,

ALLEGHENY, PA.,

*September, 1882.*





## INTRODUCTORY.

---

The therapeutic question which we are about to examine does not deserve, possibly, to be placed in the first rank of clinical importance. None of the disciples of Hahnemann, however, will, we think, deny the practical difficulties which are often presented in the treatment of constipation.

It is not always easy for the conscientious, but busy practitioner, to discriminate in the selection of the true homœopathic remedy ; and it is only too easy for the patient, on the contrary, to procure a purgative at the nearest pharmacy.

The majority of persons, who are suffering from constipation, do not possess the patience to await the dynamic effects, which are sometimes a little slow, of our remedies. A slave to a prejudice which we will be able only to eradicate by time, the public attaches to constipation an exaggerated importance and desires to effect its removal at any price. We know that there is more of error than truth in the importance which is assigned to constipation ; but if we with truth may say, that the success of the humoral doctrines is a remnant of the antiquated traditions traceable to Galen, and also that the treatment, resembling the sweeping by a broom, or the exten-

sive cleaning of the Augean stables, is more popular than scientific, nevertheless let us be just. Let us acknowledge that everything is not false, in the entreaties of our patients who, invoking the celebrated precept of Boerhaave, demand an "*open belly*;" for constipation of itself can become, an abstraction born of the causes which give rise to it, a source of physical and mental troubles.

We are reminded of a patient who we had the happiness to cure successively of a variola and a typhoid fever. He was an intelligent, highly educated ecclesiastic, full of activity, but of a weak and timorous disposition. After convalescing from typhoid fever, he was profuse in acknowledgements of the services which we had rendered him, and was never tired sounding the praise of homœopathic treatment, to which he owed, a second time, the preservation of his life. Unfortunately a constipation, habitual, but generally transitory, in convalescents, assumed in him a very obstinate form. So that after the failure of several homœopathic remedies which I had prescribed, our patient consulted a practitioner of the old-school. Farewell all the transports of gratitude, all the panegyrics upon homœopathy, all the enthusiasm of propagandism. "I confess that Homœopathy is a good thing," said our former patient to us at a later encounter, "but it is wanting in purgatives." We

have no doubt that all our colleagues have experienced analogous facts and circumstances.

It is undoubtedly more noble to correct the infirmities of the human intelligence than to pass them by ; but amid the difficulties of a daily clientele, how many necessary concessions have to be made to that enquiry for the cause, to that mania for explanations, which derives its source from a curiosity perfectly legitimate in the main ! For have not the patients who consult a physician a right to interfere in a process which concerns their health ?

We would not proscribe *absolutely* the administration of laxatives, but at the same time we would draw the line between those of hygienic, and those of a pharmaceutical order ; we do not wish, at least, to condemn or excommunicate those of our colleagues who think it is their duty to use them, either in cases of emergency, or when the indication for the homœopathic remedy is but illy-defined. But we think that we do better when we strive, at the price of frequent and conscientious investigation, to facilitate this enquiry for an appropriate remedy for each particular case. The aim which we have in view in this work is to enable those who desire to read it, to renounce the palliatives more or less crude of the old-school, and to rest upon the genuine traditions of our admirable law : *similia similibus curantur*.

It seems to us, that examined from this point of

view, the question of the homœopathic treatment of constipation merits a place among those conditions which claim the serious attention of physicians and the intelligent public.

Constipation, writes M. Jousset, is a morbid affection characterized by the infrequency and the hardness of the stools.

Grisolle agrees with Chomel in defining constipation as a condition in which the alvine evacuations of an individual are rare, and the material voided, hard and discharged with difficulty. Thus the word *constipation* carries with it the idea of a retention of fæcal matter; we should not then apply the term to the absence of stools due to an empty bowel, such as we find after a profuse diarrhœa, a prolonged fasting, or in pyloric contractions. Constipation in a great many persons constitutes a physiological condition; so that we have instances where the person may enjoy the best of health, and yet the stool only occur every four, five, eight or ten days. But we need not occupy our mind with these particular cases.

Constipation, according to M. Jousset, is symptomatic of a great number of diseases and lesions. Independent of mechanical obstructions, such as tumors in the pelvis, displacements of the uterus and narrowing of the intestine, constipation may also arise in consequence of paralysis due to lesions of the spinal cord, dyspepsia, hæmorrhoids and lead

poisoning. It has not been demonstrated that constipation arises outside of these conditions to constitute, even in the aged, an essential malady.

We believe that the latter assertion of M. Jousset will meet with decided contradictions, since clinical observation, in our country at least, brings to notice numerous cases of constipation which do not depend upon any of the conditions above mentioned and which fully justify the acceptation into the pathological schema of *idiopathic* constipation.

According to M. Jousset the conditions which, in the morbid conditions previously enumerated, favor the development of constipation are: The female sex, old age, sedentary occupation, too much or insufficient animal food, drinks taken in too small quantity, and the habit of delay in attending to the desire for stool. The affection, he adds, does not need a long description: The stools occur every three, four, eight and even fifteen days; they are dry, dark, often separated into little balls, like sheep dung; they are expelled with difficulty. The first portion is often of an enormous size, and necessitates almost the pain of a true accouchement; on the other hand, the last part may be of a liquid or semi-liquid character. An alternation of diarrhœa and constipation is often observed.

Ruddock briefly summarizes the symptoms which accompany the constipated habit: Cephalalgia,

febrile malaise ; pressure or feeling of distention of the stomach and intestines ; frequent, forced, but useless efforts to discharge the contents of the bowel, or, on the other hand, there may be a complete torpor without any desire for stool ; abdominal pulsations or pains, hæmorrhoids and varicosis ; sighing respiration ; restless sleep ; depression of spirits.

According to M. Jousset, constipation is due to the diminution of the intestinal secretions, to a spasm of the sphincter, and in a certain measure, in aged persons, to a diminution of the contractility of the intestinal fibres.

[Raue writes\* : Retarded action of the bowels is frequently accompanied with dizziness, headache, palpitation of the heart, hypochondriacal symptoms, hæmorrhoids and flatulency. If long continued it may lead to dilatation and hypertrophy of the intestines and in some rare cases, where actual impaction of hardened and dried fæces ensues, to inflammation, ulceration, and even perforation of the gut.

Constipation may be brought about by a diet containing too large an amount of indigested matter (beans, corn, and the like coarse food), which forms dry fæces difficult to evacuate ; by diseased conditions of the mucosa in consequence of chronic catarrh, which diminishes the peristaltic action of the bowels ; by muscular weakness of the intestines in conse-

\*Special Pathology and Therapeutic Hints, second edition.

quence of anæmia, chlorosis, long continued diarrhœa, the use of purgative medicines ; by abnormal losses of *fluids* in diabetes, profuse lactation or sweats ; or by the pressure of foreign bodies within the intestines, such as biliary-stones, fruit-stones, etc.]

Without stopping to consider here the genesis and etiology of constipation, let us consider directly the principal question which forms the object of this work : the treatment of constipation.

We will divide the subject into three parts :

I. The hygienic and accessory preventive treatment ;

II. The homœopathic treatment properly so-called ;

III. Finally, we shall say a few words upon the palliative or surgical treatment.

## *PART I.*

---

# THE HYGIENIC AND ACCESSORY PREVENTIVE TREATMENT.

---

According to M. Jousset the regimen should be especially directed to combatting the special etiological circumstances. Besides the use of cold injections or the introduction of a roll of charpie into the rectum, the diet should consist of bran bread and a soup made of maize, lentils or beans. The use of unground flaxseed or mustard grains have also a favorable action. Certain natural sulphur waters, principally those which contain chloride of soda (St. Gervais and Uriage), the waters containing free sodic chlorides (Niederbrunn, Friedrichshall) give the happiest results in the treatment of constipation.

We are surprised that M. Jousset does not mention the Sedlitz, Pullna, and Hunyadi-Janos waters, whose favorable action experience has daily demonstrated. The Pullna water especially, constitutes according to Constantine James, "one of the most pleasant and sure medications which therapeutics possesses."



Ruddock insists upon regularity in the time of eating (three times a day), the predominance of a vegetable (greens and fruits) over an animal diet, oatmeal gruel with molasses at breakfast, brown bread in preference to the white, the careful mastication of those articles of food which contain starch, curdled milk and whey, the internal and external use of water (one or two glasses of water drank while dressing in the morning are sometimes useful adjuvants), and the avoidance of spirituous liquors, spices, and late suppers. He also recommends a morning walk, but it should not be carried to the point of fatigue. Dry frictions or wet compresses over the abdomen may prove efficient. The organism should be accustomed to a regular and fixed period for stool, just as for any other physiological act; by fixing the attention upon this point for some moments each day it can be finally attained and with great advantage to the health.

These directions seem to us to be wise, imprinted as they are with that eminently practical spirit which we often admire in the English, our powerful neighbors and best friends.

Another English physician, Dr. Tuthill Massy, recommends salt-water injections and frictions with olive-oil over the abdomen.

Other practitioners recommend olive-oil taken internally, a spoonful at a dose, night and morning.

Besides the means already mentioned, let us cite rapidly, the juice of prunes, preserved fruits, honey, brown sugar, syrup, manna, the use of chicory in place of the morning coffee, a cigarette while fasting. We have been told by one of our eminent colleagues, and have since verified it for ourselves, of the efficacy of the pastilles of tamarinds, taken from time to time, lengthening the intervals between each one. Has this substance only the tamarin as an active principle? We are inclined to believe this, notwithstanding the contrary opinion of many physicians who think that senna enters into the composition.

## *PART II.*

---

# THE HOMŒOPATHIC TREATMENT PROPER.

---

Two different methods may be admissible for the exposition of this treatment. The one consisting in the multiple forms of constipation and the designation of the medicines adapted to each of these forms according to their symptomatic shadings; this method may, perhaps, be more scientific in the practical and ordinary sense of the word, but we do not propose to adopt it here.

We prefer the method of the individual study of the principal medicines adapted to the cure of constipation. With each of these remedies we shall, nevertheless, endeavor to determine as accurately as possible their characteristic sphere of action by references to clinical observations in support of their efficacy. We shall by this means lessen the difficulties which may be attributed to our method, which conforms with the spirit of the homœopathic doctrine, and especially to the teachings of our illustrious founder. We shall endeavor, however, to

satisfy, by a practical résumé, the objections more or less well founded of the partisans of the first method.

## ÆSCULUS HIPPOCASTANUM.

**Stools:** Large, dry, hard, difficult, dark; In the form of balls; First part hard, black, the last of about natural consistency, but white as milk; Hard, knotty, dry, and white. (See Nux v.)

**Before Stool:** Constant desire; Sensation as if a foreign body was in the rectum, or as if the rectum was full of small sticks, with fruitless efforts at evacuation, and violent pains through the hips and sacrum; Heat and contraction of the rectum, with a sensation as if it was prolapsed; dryness and itching of the anus, with tension of the mucous membranes and the neighboring integuments; Pain, constriction, weight, prickings and itching, with tenesmus of the rectum and anus, the pains irradiate to the posterior surface of the body.

**During Stool:** Continuation of many of the symptoms enumerated above. Sensation as if the intestine was obstructed by folds of mucous membrane, which were threatening to rupture under the efforts at defecation; Hæmorrhoids with a slight bloody discharge but with intense pain; Inability to

expel the stool from weakness of the rectum ; Shivering while at stool.

**After Stool:** Colic at the umbilicus, with severe pains and tearing at the anus ; Reddish, painful, and burning hæmorrhoidal tumors ; Bleeding piles ; Prolapsus recti et ani ; Burning and contraction in the rectum, itching at the anus and a sensation of excoriation ; Backache.

**Concomitants:** Depression of spirits. Vertigo. Nausea, vomiting or violent retching. Throbbing in the abdominal and pelvic cavities ; passing fetid flatus. Urine dark, muddy, passed with much pain. Pain and a sensation of paralysis in the kidneys extending to the hips, with aggravation from rising. This pain is not intense, but rather a sensation of painful weakness which is aggravated by exercise and relieved by repose ; when the patient attempts to walk or to attend to his usual occupations, the pain at the lower portion of the back appears and he is compelled to rest.

**Generalities:** Chronic constipation associated with hæmorrhoids. Dr. Hughes says : When the hæmorrhoids are only secondary, that is to say, dependent upon a congestion of the portal system or of some other intra-abdominal part, *Æsculus* is probably inferior to *Nux vom.* and *Sulphur*. When they are associated with varicosis elsewhere and bleed freely, *Hamamelis* is a better remedy. But when the only

concomitant symptom and the only appreciable cause of their development is constipation, and when there are severe pains and but little loss of blood, *Æsculus* will in all probability effect a cure. I have also cured with this medicine a case of intense pain at the anus after stool, resembling that caused by fissures.

[Hempel and Arndt\* write: Chronic constipation begets hæmorrhoids, and usually a radical cure of piles is out of the question unless you correct this predisposing cause. The curative effect of *Æsculus* upon cases of chronic constipation furnishes us the rationale of brilliant cures of piles performed with it, often in a comparatively short time, after other efforts of skilled prescribers had utterly failed.]

Meyhoffer has employed this drug with great advantage in a case in which pharyngo-laryngitis coexisted with hæmorrhoids and constipation.

We have confirmed the recommendation of *Æsculus* in chronic constipation connected with a hæmorrhoidal diathesis, in the case of a man thirty-five years of age, who had suffered from chronic and hereditary hæmorrhoids, and who, independent of an inveterate constipation, carried upon his face a mask of acne rosacea; the relief was marked and permanent.

\*Materia Medica and Therapeutics.

*Case 1.*—C. E., a young man of active habits, complained of a hæmorrhage from the anus after stool. The bowels were constipated, and were only moved every two or three days, and accompanied by great effort and pain. The blood was dark colored. Seminal emissions with erections, towards morning, followed by a desire to urinate. *Æsculus*<sup>3</sup>, four pills every two hours, removed the trouble within a week.—*T. M. S.*

## ALOES.

Jahr gives: Whitish-gray excrements. Constipation from atony. Collection of faecal material on account of the constipation. Insufficient bilious secretions. Stool firm, insufficient, soon after a meal, aggravated from standing. Hunger during stool.

Espanet: This medicine is suitable for melancholic venous temperaments, with a constitution used up from table excesses. It corresponds principally to the female sex, or to men in middle life or old age.

[Lilienthal: Constipation of aged people, with abdominal plethora; suitable to hypochondriasis, and to persons leading a sedentary life, with a pituitous state of the stomach and bowels; heat, soreness and heaviness of the rectum; urgency as with diarrhœa; only hot flatus passes with sensation as if a plug was wedged between the symphysis pubis and coccyx,]

## ALUMINA (ARGILLA).

**Stools:** Dry, hard, light colored or pale; Broken masses or in balls; Scanty, hard and difficult; Hard, covered with mucus or mixed with a glairy matter; Difficult.

**Before Stool:** Frequent and ineffectual desire for stool. No desire for, and no ability to pass stool, until there is a large accumulation.

**During Stool:** Pressure and cutting pains at the anus and a hæmorrhagic discharge; Great straining even with a soft stool; Pain or itching at the anus; Voiding of urine while straining at stool; Discharge of prostatic fluid.

**After Stool:** Long-lasting pains in rectum after each stool; Pain in the stomach.

**Concomitants:** Dry mouth and irritated-looking tongue. Pain, malaise, and weight in the abdomen. Frequent nausea, and acid eructations. Slight burnings, smartings, and shootings in the anus, with itching and tingling. Dryness of the rectum. Atonic hæmorrhoidal tumors.

**Generalities:** Constipation due to a diminution of the peristaltic movement and to the inactivity of the rectum. Dr. Chargé, relative to Alumina in dyspepsia says: In a materia medica happily simplified and reduced to the form of the Greek roots of our boyhood days, *dryness* would express in a



single word the whole of this medicine. We meet with stomacis which give rise to trouble on account of the want of gastric juice, those, for instance, which have made the fortune of pepsine; Alumina is especially adapted to these conditions.

For the constipation of pregnant and lying-in women; from carriage riding, and lead poison; in nursing infants and children raised artificially.

Kafka says: For children nourished on a thick oatmeal gruel and milk or upon a concentrated preparation of vermicelli, which develops oftentimes an intestinal catarrh with a constipation so obstinate, that the dry balls remain in some manner arrested at the anus, and can only be evacuated by manual aid.

Espanet notes the inertia of the intestines which ordinarily occasions the constipation, although the excreted material may not be always formed and scanty. In this regard Alumina is the direct opposite of *Nux vomica*, and it is by a contrary action in this latter medicine that the stools are difficult, the intestine feeble, and the rectum inert; the defecation is accomplished through the efforts of the abdominal muscles.

The opinions of Ruckert is confirmed by Kafka: Alumina<sup>6</sup> is suitable for the chronic form of intestinal catarrh which is characterized by excessive

flatulency, with pricking and drawing pains in the bowels, pressure in the stomach and abdomen, frequent and ineffectual desire for stool, scanty evacuation of hard broken materials, with pressive and cutting pains at the anus and a hæmorrhagic discharge.

Alumina is to Sepia, says M. Teste, what Silicea is to Pulsatilla; we might, perhaps, call it the Sepia of chronic diseases. The remedy is not suitable for active persons of sanguineous temperaments.

*Case 2.*—On the 20th of Sept., 1878, a constipation, which had been habitual since birth, in a lymphatic and weakened infant, seven weeks old and nourished on the bottle, became extremely obstinate, and was accompanied with such severe pains that the child cried or rather howled day and night. Besides the bloating of the abdomen and its sensitiveness to pressure, there was a dilatation of the pupils, and at times a slight spasmodic movement of the muscles of the face; paleness of the skin; pulse small and frequent. Injections, several times repeated, brought with difficulty a few small, grayish, dry balls to the anal opening from which they had to be extracted by the finger. Belladonna and Chamomilla (alternately) gave some slight relief; Nux vom. and Coffea alternated gave very little result by the 21st. On the 22d I alternated Nux vom. and Alumina, in the 12th dilution, and the result was prompt and decisive.—*Dr. H. Bernard.*

*Case 3.*—D. B., aged 12 years, mild disposition. Bowels moved once or twice a week; has shooting stitches through the temples from right to left, in the afternoon, especially on going down stairs; has no desire for stool or ability to pass stool, until there is a large accumulation of fæces. Takes a carriage ride every day; with this exception gets out of doors but very little; perfectly healthy looking in every respect. Alumina<sup>30</sup>, one dose. In three days the stools took place daily and he has had no return of the constipation since.—*Dr. B. F. Betts in Raue's Record. 1871, p. 120.*

*Case 4.*—A nursing child of four months had been constipated

from birth. A number of remedies were used without avail. Alumina<sup>200</sup>, one dose, cured it.—*Dr. W. B. Chamberlain in Trans. N. Y. State Hom. Med. Society, vol. viii., p. 172.*

## BELLADONNA.

Espanet refers Belladonna to the inflammatory constipation.

Teste writes that it is serviceable in hernia and lead colic, affections in which constipation is one of the chief symptoms.

Although these forms of constipation do not come properly within the plan which we have laid out, yet we will give a few extracts, from a monograph by Dr. Davasse, bearing on our subject: Delayed alvine evacuations (Purkinge). Frequent desire for stool without result (Hermann). Constipation (several). Absence of stools and urine (Kock).

Teste writes: In nervous children with large heads, dilated pupils, subject to convulsive movements, startings in sleep and disturbing dreams, Belladonna<sup>12</sup> is the only medicine with which I have been able to overcome the accompanying constipation. I generally give it in globules upon the tongue, once or twice a day, ordinarily for several days in succession.

Jahr describes the symptom, *suppressed stool and constipation*, sometimes with bloating of the bowels, heat of the head and profuse sweat.

Noack recommends Belladonna for chronic hæmorrhoidal constipation when there are at the same time violent pains in the kidneys and a sensation of constriction in the breast.

Bruckner and Schadler note the following concomitant phenomena: Congestion to the head, face and eyes red, heat in the head, pulsation of the arteries of the neck, sensitiveness to light and noise. Dr. Guernsey claims to have cured with Belladonna high, a constipation which resisted the most violent purgatives.

Tuthill Massey differs from Dr. Guernsey, at least in regard to the suitable dose of the medicine: "The extract of Belladonna, in the dose of a quarter of a grain in the evening on lying down, merits, in some cases, the highest consideration."

We give here a note from two celebrated physicians of the old-school. MM. Trousseau and Pidoux recall the fact that Bretonneau recommends Belladonna in gastralgia and enteralgia with constipation. Bretonneau also prescribes Belladonna in the constipation of hypochondriacs and nervous women. "It is remarkable," add our authors, "that certain persons who resist the most powerful purgatives, are enabled to go to stool each day by the most minute dose of Belladonna. One, two or four pills containing each a centigramme of the extract and as much of the powder are ordinarily sufficient."

**BRYONIA.**

**Stools:** Hard, dry, large, burnt-looking.

**Before Stool:** No desire or urging.

**During Stool:** Passed only after much straining;  
Painful.

**Concomitants:** Inclined to be irritable; easily angered. Headache with heat of forehead and face; congestions and pains in head; pulsative headache; pressive weight in the head, with flashes of heat in the face. Faintness or nausea on rising from a recumbent position. Feeling of fullness or pressure in the stomach and epigastric region after eating, which lasts for several hours; appetite is wanting or there may be canine hunger followed by nausea; acidity of the stomach. With the gastric symptoms there are oftentimes congestions to the head and chest, with short respiration, and chilliness. Pain in the region of the liver.

**Generalities:** Suitable for acute attacks of constipation occurring during the summer or in hot weather, or in those who are suffering from, or liable to attacks of, rheumatism. For constipation arising from disordered stomach. Obstinate constipation often accompanied with other affections of the abdomen. For the constipation of pregnancy, but of more importance when it occurs in the lying-in woman (frequently depending on an inflammatory

irritation of the abdominal organs). Also serviceable in the constipation of infants, where the fæcal masses are so large and hard as to give rise to painful evacuations. Where the condition is the result of sedentary habits, and associated with bilious derangements and intestinal torpor. When *Nux vom.* and *Opium* have failed to act; or it may be advantageous to alternate it with *Nux vomica*, especially in the constipation due to irritation or congestion of the intestine. The intestinal torpor must be distinguished from the ineffectual efforts of *Nux vomica* [and from the paralytic condition of *Opium*, *Plumbum*, etc.]

Rueckert quotes from *Vehsem* in relation to a case of constipation aggravated by purgatives in which *Bryonia*<sup>2</sup> succeeded after *Nux vom.*<sup>2</sup> had failed.

We give below two clinical cases which will show at the same time the analogies and differences between this drug and *Nux vomica*.

*Case 5.*—Mme. A., age 60 years, had suffered for several years with a chronic constipation. She had a stool only every eight days, and the excrement was as hard as stone. A torpor seemed to have seized the intestinal canal, for motion was rarely felt in the lower part of the abdomen. As she was addicted to the excessive use of coffee, and led a partly sedentary life, I placed her for eight days under a preparatory regimen, and prescribed chocolate instead of coffee. I finally administered a dose of *Nux vom.*, tinct. This remedy produced a stool, almost soft, every three days. The organs of the lower abdomen seemed to be reanimated and rendered active. There was an increased flatulency, a more tranquil state of mind, and a gayer disposition. The patient neglected to attempt a movement of the bowels

every day, as I had recommended, the effects of the Nux ceased, and the constipation returned. Two doses of Bryonia<sup>10</sup> at long intervals, again removed the condition. She now has a stool every other day, soft in consistency and without pain.—*Dr. Schuler.*

*Case 6.*—A woman of delicate constitution, who was also a subject of somnambulism and for the latter trouble had been bled every five or six weeks for the last two years, had, at the most, a stool only every two weeks, except under the influence of a laxative or an injection. She was given ten drops of Nux vomica<sup>30</sup>. For six days she had not had a stool, and at the end of four days more she had a hard stool, which was accompanied with such severe pains that she was completely prostrated. Two days later she had three stools without any pain. For five months from this time the stools were regular. But pregnancy occurring she was taken with frequent vomiting to which was again added a constipation, and which was cured by means of a single globule of Bryonia<sup>12</sup>.—*Dr. Wiedman.*

## CANNABIS SATIVA.

In Hahnemann's *Materia Medica* we find: "For the first five days stool as usual, but on the two following, complete constipation (Gross). We find also this striking symptom: Sensation at the anus as if something cold was falling drop by drop upon the skin (Franz).

Jahr who places *Cannabis sat.* in the second rank in the treatment of constipation in general, recommends it among others as serviceable for accidental constipation.

*Case 7.*—In a case of obstinate retention of urine, I gave *Cannabis* which not only restored the normal urinary secretion, but cured at the same time an obstinate constipation which had lasted for a long time.—*Dr. Fleischmann.*

## CALCAREA CARBONICA.

**Stools:** Hard, then mushy, and finally fluid; Hard, large, partially digested stools; Involuntary, fermented, sour-smelling diarrhœa, alternating with constipation; Stools looking like lumps of chalk in children, during dentition; Offensive, like rotten eggs. Hard, small, tardy, difficult; hard, dry and gummy; Very hard, enveloped in mucus, and alternating with a fetid diarrhœa; Clay-like, gray, fæcal.

**Before Stool:** Ineffectual desire, sometimes with pain; Feeling of heaviness in lower part of rectum.

**During Stool:** Severe urgings, without voiding anything but fetid flatulency; Oozing of fluid from the rectum, smelling like herring brine; bloody discharge; pain through the protruding hæmorrhoids.

**After Stool:** Feeling of faintness; Burning and smarting in the rectum and anus.

**Concomitants:** [Distention of the abdomen, with pain and pressure, nausea, and sour eructations; restless sleep; also symptoms referable to a constitutional dyscrasia.]

**Generalities:** For habitual constipation, especially after the preceding use of Sulphur or Nux vom., or when occurring in enfeebled subjects. For chronic hæmorrhoidal constipation, given in alternation with Sulphur. Also for the obstinate constipation in the new-born.



Willmar Schwabe recommends *Calcarea* in chronic catarrh of the intestines with constipation and increase of the peristaltic movements. He also places in the same category with *Calcarea* the following remedies: *Carbo veg.*, *Magnesia mur.*, *Colocynth.* Phosphoric acid and Sulphur.

### CARBO VEGETABILIS.

**Stools:** Insufficient; [Hard stool, enveloped in mucus and blood at the extremity of the faecal mass]; Difficult, although they may not be hard; [In fragments, which are tough and scanty.]

**Before Stool:** [Sensation as if the bowels would be moved, but flatus only passes]; Emission of great quantities of gas.

**During Stool:** Violent tenesmus; Burning at the anus and pains in the abdomen like labor-pains; [Urging to stool, with discharge of soft faeces and relief from the pains]; Itching at the anus.

**After Stool:** [Sensation of complete emptiness in the abdomen, remaining a long time.]

**Concomitants:** Tongue coated in the centre and red on the edges. Ventral colic, sensitiveness and swelling of the epigastrium. Respiration impeded after a meal. Excessive flatulency which is nearly always fetid. Acrid moisture about the anus with

tormenting sensations, crawling, itching, etc., in the rectum.

**Generalities:** Chronic hæmorrhoidal constipation.

Noack says: Carbo veg. is indicated in the cases complicated with constipation from irritation or congestion of the intestines, especially in hypochondriacs.

Willmar Schwabe indicates Carbo veg. in the chronic intestinal catarrh with constipation allied to an exaggeration of the peristaltic movement. It is suitable for very nearly the same condition as Calcaria carb., only the stool is sometimes bloody, or it may happen that during stool a marked hæmorrhoidal hæmorrhage may occur.

In relation to the flatulency of Carbo veg. we would remark that if Hahnemann says expressly that the expelled gas is inodorous or nearly so, the greater number of homœopathic physicians consider the fetidity of the excreta a positive indication for Carbo veg. I think it most appropriate in the cases in which the gas distends the stomach rather than the intestines, and in which there is a greater tendency to diarrhœa than to constipation. The majority of authors consider Carbo veg. to be more suitable for diarrhœa than in constipation.

*Case 8.*—A physician, whose earlier life had been spent in the country where he was accustomed to riding on horseback and an active life, removed to the city about twenty years ago, and

soon afterwards began to complain of derangement of the digestive organs; nausea, vertigo, weight and pain in the head, anorexia, distention of the stomach after eating, with acid eructations, coated tongue, pain in the liver, general wasting, cardiac palpitations so severe that when lying in bed the clothing was often raised. This condition continued for many years, and was followed by an obstinate constipation which constantly demanded purgatives, tonics, alkalies and alteratives. The patient could not remain a week without medicine, rarely a day without a soda or a purgative. All these means were laid aside and under the use of *Calcarea carb.* and then *Carbo veg.*, the symptoms of dyspepsia vanished and the constipation was conquered. Three years later there had not been any return of the trouble.

## CAUSTICUM.

**Stools:** Light or white colored; Olive-shaped, mixed with mucus and blood, difficult. [Tough and shining as if greased; at first hard and in pieces, the last soft; knotty, like sheep's dung; hard and firm].

**Before Stool:** Frequent but ineffectual desire, with great pain, anxiety and redness of the face.

**During Stool:** Vertigo; Cutting pains in the rectum; Desire for stool rendered useless by spasmodic painful contractions of the anus; Protruding hæmorrhoids and bleeding; [Stool passes better while standing; Burning in the anus with prostration.]

**After Stool:** Palpitations; heat of the face; and sweats (also *Aconite*).

**Concomitants:** [Bitter, greasy, foul taste in the

mouth; fitful appetite, thirst; diminished taste; aversion to sweet things; white coating on the tongue. Pressure in the rectum the whole day; a pressing pain frequently and suddenly darts through the rectum; a feeling as if fæces were lodged in it, which should come away; spasms in the rectum which make walking impossible; stitches in the lower part of the rectum; excessive itching of the rectum, anus and pudendum; soreness of and oozing of humor from the rectum. Fissures and fistules of the anus.

**Generalities:** [Constipation of children with enuresis nocturna; pains in the rectum so severe that the children try to keep back the evacuations].

Chargé recommends this remedy for the dyspepsia occurring in gouty, rheumatic and hæmorrhoidal constitutions.

Espanet writes: Causticum is indicated like Ignatia and Nux vom. in the affections of the abdomen with nervous accidents, having their origin in the solar plexus; only there is more of asthenia and paleness of the tissue in cases calling for Causticum. Obstinate constipation from nervous and nutritive atony, with pale face, pains and anxiety, belong to it in the same degree as in chronic diarrhœa. Both are accompanied by pruritus ani, palpitations, and anguish; furthermore, the constipation changes

into diarrhœa and the latter is aggravated by the application of cold to the abdomen.

## CHAMOMILLA.

The following clinical fact we think contains in a characteristic manner the circumstances in which we would be apt to think of this medicine in the treatment of the constipation of infants.

*Case 9.*—An infant eight months old, a strong vigorous boy of wealthy parents, nourished by a healthy wet-nurse, has been constipated since birth; he goes to stool only every five to six days, and sometimes longer intervals. The stools are yellow, large, formed, and without any pathological mark unless it be the size; injections have to be freely used. When there is a repletion of the rectum, there is a slight bloating of the abdomen with flatulency, and some restlessness at night, but this malaise disappears after an evacuation. I sent four medicines, to be taken in order, beginning with a vial of Chamomilla<sup>30</sup>. This remedy seemed less indicated than the others (Nux vom., Lycopodium, Hydrastis), but thinking that there might be a latent cause, due to dentition, and that Chamomilla acts upon the ganglionic nervous system, and has among its symptoms: "Constipation as from inertia of the rectum, flatulent colic with bloated abdomen and collection of gas in the hypochondria," I ordered this remedy to be taken first; two globules in the evening and two next morning. On the same day towards evening, there was an enormous stool but not so thick; on the next day a normal stool for an infant, that is to say very soft; since then the stools occur daily, and are natural; sometimes there are several stools a day. [In a letter from Dr. Casal upon this subject he states that a midwife who was a witness to this cure, often employs Chamomilla in the treatment of accidental constipation in infants. This medicine has never failed her.]—*Dr. Casal, of Menton.*

## CINCHONINE AND SULPHATE OF CINCHONINE.

The Cinchonine, as we know, is an alkaloid which is found in many species of Cinchona, especially the gray.

The use of this substance in the treatment of constipation is mentioned by Dr. R. Noack, of Lyon. In his Homœopathic Guide he divides habitual constipation into five classes :

1. Constipation from inertia of the intestine ;
2. Constipation from alteration of the intestinal mucus ;
3. Constipation from contraction of the muscular fibres ;
4. Constipation from irritation or congestion of the intestine ;
5. Hæmorrhoidal constipation.

The most frequent of all, according to him, consists in a sort of inertia or inactivity of the muscular fibres of the intestines, which become distended and necessitate painful efforts in order to produce the expulsion of the fecal matters. These sometimes present an enormous mass, indicative of dilatation of the large intestine ; hence, the application of a special remedy, the Cinchonine, five centigrammes of the 3d dec. trit., to be taken every other day.

Dr. A. Noack, physician to the Homœopathic

Dispensary of Leipzig, after speaking of the employment of Sulphate of Cinchonine in the treatment of intermittent fever, adds: "In a case of dorsal muscular rheumatism, where there was stiffness of the back so that the patient was constantly bent over, terrible pains on turning the body, and when respiring deeply, sneezing or coughing, and also obstinate constipation, I gave for four days, one-fourth of a grain of Sulphate of Quinine, twice a day. There was an amelioration on the second day and a cure on the fifth. This remedy has rendered me excellent service in constipation, among others in a young woman who suffered from an irritation of the uterus and left ovary with painful digestion, continual eructations, fullness in the stomach after a meal, frequent cutting pains and obstinate constipation; this patient had often to render manual assistance to the escape of the small, hard, excrements, which were often bloody. I had no less reason to be pleased in a case of acute jaundice with desire to vomit, distended abdomen, colic in the umbilical region and persistent constipation. I can also recommend it from experience for the torpor of the intestinal canal, in consequence of dysentery."

Following the recommendations given here, we have made several trials with this drug in the treatment of constipation presenting the above mentioned characters. If we have at times succeeded,

we ought also to say that in the majority of cases we have failed. Was it our own fault or that of the medicine? The indications for this drug appear, at least, to demand a more complete symptomatic development.

## COCULUS.

In his pathogenetic résumé of *Cocculus*, Jahr notes: Constipation with tenesmus; *stool hard, difficult*. In his Repertory, he classes *Cocculus* among the first of the remedies indicated for constipation in general, imitating in this respect the example of Bœnninghausen, who, besides, italicizes the following symptom: Ineffectual urging at stool from insufficiency of the peristaltic movement of the upper intestines.

We give also some of the phenomena noted by Hahnemann: Tingling and itching in the rectum similar to that produced by ascarides. Constrictive pain in the anus, worse in the afternoon, which prevents sitting. Burning itching in the anus.

## COLLINSONIA CANADENSIS.

**Stools:** Large and pale; Lumpy and light colored.

**Before Stool:** Cutting pains in the hypogastrium with desire.



**During Stool :** Absence of marked desire ; Straining ; Violent effort and dull pain.

**After Stool :** Dull pains in the anus.

**Concomitants :** Pulsative or painful cephalalgia. Congestion towards the heart and head alternating with hæmorrhoidal symptoms. Indigestion arising from a want of tone in the stomach with flatulency ; colic and spasms of the intestines. Loss of appetite. Distention of the abdomen. Heat and itching of the anus, sensation of sand and gravel in the rectum. Venous congestions, such as varicocoele, hæmorrhoids, blind or bleeding, and all their metastases ; varices, pruritus vulvæ, amenorrhœa, metrorrhagia, prolapsus uteri.

**Generalities :** Collinsonia is a remedy essentially allied to the rectum. Constipation and hæmorrhoids in consequence of the congestive inertia of the extremity of the large intestine ; this condition is often met in the middle and later months of pregnancy, and is also associated with the diseased conditions already mentioned.

Willmar Schwabe prefers this drug when the evacuation of the stools is not accompanied by a continuous pressure and when the stools (contrary to those calling for *Nux vom.*, for which medicine *Collinsonia* has a great affinity) are pale and large.

This drug is considered as a specific, by the Amer.

ican homœopaths, for the constipation of pregnancy, although in this case, Bryon.<sup>2</sup>, Natrum m.<sup>3</sup>, or Sepia<sup>4</sup> often render good service.

The attention of physicians ought to be called to this remedy, in our opinion, if there exists a cardiac hyperæsthesia; at least this is the conclusion we have drawn from an article by Dr. Hale. What Sepia is to the chronic diseases, says the same author, Collinsonia is to acute diseases.

Dr. Burt says: The grand sphere for Collinsonia is in neurosis of the bowels, where pain is one of the most prominent symptoms, and especially in diseases of the rectum.

*Case 10.*—Mrs. B., aged twenty-nine years, was in the sixth month of pregnancy and suffered very much from obstinate constipation, as she had previously done under the same circumstances. Her bowels had not moved for six or seven days. She had some nausea, a dull pain in the head, a very light, whitish coating of the tongue, loss of appetite, inability to sleep and a feeling of constant pressure in the rectum, with a heavy, dragging ache in the pelvis. Collinsonia<sup>1</sup> relieved promptly, and enabled her to avoid what, on previous occasions, had been a source of constant suffering to her.—*Hempel and Arndt.*

## CONIUM MACULATUM.

This medicine presents but few symptoms of constipation, but they are very characteristic. In the Chronic Diseases we find: *Constipation with ineffectual desire for stool*; hard stool which occurs only every two days. After stool, palpitation of the heart.

[In Raue, we find: Frequent urging without stool, or there is only a small quantity expelled at a time; chilliness during stool; the flow of urine suddenly stops and continues after a short intermission; dizziness when turning in bed.]

The hemlock, says Esplanet, is very useful for hypochondriacs and scrofulous persons with gastric and abdominal complaints, with slowness of digestion, irritative constipation or diarrhœa, asthenia and flatulency.

[Hempel and Arndt: In constipation, when arising from spasmodic rigidity of the fibre.]

*Case 11.*—X—, age 40 years, consulted me in March, 1873. He was then suffering from an extreme state of nervous excitation and depression. He was unable to prevent a continual desire for suicide; he no longer dared to ride on the railroad nor approach an open window. Some ten years before he had had a similar affection, but in a milder form, which was cured by traveling and diverting the mind. All this extreme anxiety turned to his business affairs which he thought was threatened with immediate ruin. He could not give any reason for this unfortunate idea, for his business was in a most prosperous condition. He told me later that his natural disposition was lively and that his family relations left nothing to be desired. An exanthematous eruption had been suppressed upon him a few months before and for which purgative had been liberally used. He had noticed that since then there has always been some obstruction although the evacuations were regular. It was necessary for him to make violent efforts for ten to twelve minutes before going to stool. He felt tired and exhausted several hours after stool. A microscopic examination of the urine made immediately after stool explained fully this condition. I learned also that the intestines had been affected during the former attack, but that their normal activity had been restored along with the improvement in the general health.

The remedy was plain. I cauterized at first the prostatic por-

tion of the urethra. This had an excellent effect, in that the patient urinated only at intervals of several hours; a condition which I have always found to be favorable. I prescribed finally, *Conium mac.* and *Nux vomica* in the tinctures. At the end of a month, the patient was completely cured and came to express his gratitude.—*Dr. Epps.*

[We translate this case because it is quoted by Dr. Bernard; but we believe that the credit of the cure belongs entirely to the *Nux vomica*.]

## CROCUS.

Dr. Schmidt says: I have often succeeded with *Crocus* in obstinate constipation, notably when it occurs in the new-born, and is based on disturbances in the vena-porta. In these cases, in the dose of a drop of the tincture, once a day, I have obtained natural stools without any inconvenient result.

We find in the *Manual of Jahr*, the following symptoms only (given in very nearly the same terms as *Bœnninghausen*): Itching and crawling sensations in the anus. Dull shootings in the side of and above the anus.

## EUPHRASIA.

The only symptom which we find in *Hahnemann's Materia Medica* bearing upon this subject is the following: Daily stool, but it is hard and scanty.

We would not have referred to this drug, if we had not read the following curious observation.

*Case 12.*—A child, one year of age (Calc. carb. constitution), suffered for six months, with an obstinate constipation, for which I had prescribed a number of remedies, with little or no benefit. A short time since he was attacked with a fluent, profuse coryza, with slight flow of tears and a bright red eruption upon the cheek; aggravation in the afternoon and after crying; persistent constipation; stools in large balls, which are dry, hard, voided with great difficulty and almost tearing the anal passage. Euphrasia<sup>200</sup>, four doses, thirty-six hours apart, promptly relieved this entire array of symptoms.—*Dr. Hoopes.*

## GRAPHITES.

**Stools:** Hard, knotty, with discharge of mucus and blood; In lumps united by threads of mucus; Large and ball-shaped; Long and slender in shape.

**Before Stool:** Great desire.

**During Stool:** Hard stool, with much urging and sticking in the anus; Great straining even when the stool is not hard; Shooting pains in the anus; Discharge of white mucus.

**After Stool:** Prolapsus recti and hæmorrhoids, as if the rectum was paralyzed; stitching, tearing, and soreness in the rectum.

**Concomitants:** Burning heat in the stomach after eating and from the least aggravation of the general conditions, or distress after a meal (a result due to the abdominal venous plethora).

The abdomen is very much distended from the accumulation of gases. Hardness in the region of the liver. Pains in the hæmorrhoidal protrusions. Fissures of the anus with sharp cutting pains during

stool, followed by constriction and aching for several hours, worse at night. Skin dry and rough; or with herpetic eruptions, secreting an aqueous or viscous liquid.

**Generalities:** Constipation in subjects of the herpetic diathesis or with a scrofulous cachexia. In hypochondriacal subjects with marked abdominal symptoms.

Hahnemann says, that when there is chronic constipation and when a delay of several days in the appearance of the menses gives rise to complications, we can seldom succeed in the treatment without having recourse to this remedy.

Willmar Schwabe says, that diarrhœa never alternates with the constipation which corresponds to Graphites.

[Constipation in women who are inclined to erysipelatous inflammation and ulcerative processes of the lower extremities on a rheumatic basis, and who are of a timid, morose and dejected disposition.—H. Goullon, Jr.]

*Case 13.—Gastro-intestinal affection accompanied with erythema of the face.* Mlle. M—, twenty-eight years of age, brunette, has been subject to constipation since early childhood; congenital without doubt, this tendency, which, in her case is not hereditary, has been aggravated by a vicious alimentation composed especially of pastry, sweetmeats of all kinds, etc. Later, obedient to a false idea of modesty, Mlle. M—, delayed as much as possible the act of defecation; ten days would often pass without stool, to her great satisfaction. The menstrual

epoch was marked by the appearance of violent pains in the forehead, followed each day, almost at the same hour (3 P. M.) with redness of the nose, cheeks and eyes. The disposition became at the same time more irritable; extreme sullenness, desire for solitude, dread, fear of coming spectres, interrupted by rare intervals of sleep, appetite whimsical. M. Cruveilhier was consulted without success for eighteen months. M. Lheritier advised the use of the waters of Plombières. The amelioration of the digestive tract which was manifest during the use of the waters did not last, notwithstanding the *Nux vomica* pills, various purgatives, the tea of St. Germain and many other remedies prescribed by the sub-inspector at these Springs. M. Caze-nave saw only the erythema of the face and was no more successful with his cosmetics. After failure in the treatment by several other physicians, I was called and found the following symptoms:

Sadness, weeping, sullenness, desire for solitude, fear of spectres, horrid fancies; aversion to occupations formerly loved, the piano and needlework; no sleep or else one disturbed by dreams, constant headache with sensation of fullness or dilatation of the cranium. Congestion of the face, redness of the face, especially across the nose, which was increased in size. This redness comes on about 3 P. M., and is produced by the most insignificant incident, a draught of air, a sojourn in a room occupied by several persons, during digestion, by study, and is accompanied by a stupefying headache. The eyes are heavy, and the patient complains of a feeling as if a leaden weight was pressing on the forehead. The skin of the congested portions of the face is rough and shining; the pores are sensibly opened. This disfiguring appearance is very annoying to the patient, who being rich and able to enjoy every luxury, cannot appear without this disgusting mask. Obstinate constipation, which is prolonged from eight to twenty-one days. Stools like sheep-dung, covered with grayish matter, and sometimes streaked with blood. Menses profuse and debilitating. Leucorrhœa succeeding the menses (during four days), with ringing in the ears. Capricious appetite, sometimes ravenous hunger and then again prompt satiety. Swelling in the region of the stomach, aggravated by pressure of the clothing. Cold feet and knees. I began the treatment with Sulphur which seemed to be called for by the moral symptoms, and especially the constipation, with stools enveloped in mucous matter, and the development of the hæmorrhoidal vessels giving rise to the blood in the stools. This

remedy in the 6th produced a stool sufficiently abundant on the first and second days, but without any relief to the other symptoms. Twelve days later, I gave Graph.<sup>30</sup>, a teaspoonful night and morning. This remedy, repeated every twelve days, produced a real amelioration. The stools took place every four days and then every other day. The bloody streaks disappeared; the appetite became regular; the swelling and the tenderness from the pressure of the clothing gradually passed away. The congested conditions of the face did not appear every day. Continued for three months, in alternation every twelve days with Plumb.<sup>30</sup>, Graphites re-established the intestinal functions. But the redness did not disappear entirely except under the influence of Alumina<sup>30</sup>, two doses given at intervals of two months. The patient is now in perfect health. Graphites and Alumina in alternation, always prevents the tendency to constipation which appears in consequence of the balls, soirees, and too prolonged vigils.

## GRATIOLA.

**Stools:** Hard, scanty, tenacious, expelled with difficulty.

**Before Stool:** Pressing and ineffectual desire; Repeated tenesmus and rumblings as if diarrhœa would come on.

**During Stool:** Burning pain in rectum; Straining.

**After Stool:** Burning pains in the rectum; Tenesmus; A wrenching pain in the coccyx; Creeping chills.

**Generalities:** This medicine, says Jahr, is still but little known and has only been employed against hypochondriacal affections, a few cases of gastralgia, and certain forms of constipation.

Teste considers it as being in some respects the Chamomilla of chronic diseases.



## HEPAR SULPHUR.

Boëninghausen in his Manual, mentions Hepar in connection with Alumina, Kali carb., Natrum mur. and Nux vomica for constipation due to inactivity of the intestines. He also gives the following: Difficult expulsion of a small quantity of soft excrement with great efforts and tenesmus. Stool hard and dry.

In the Chronic Diseases we have: Inaction of the rectum; stools hard, insufficient; swelling of the anus. After great efforts, there is a hard stool, mingled with a yellow liquid. Emission, at times, of prostatic fluid while at stool.

Ruddock: Obstinate constipation from congestion of the rectum.

In his article upon the treatment of dyspepsia, M. Chargé gives in connection with Hepar: Stools hard, difficult, slightly colored, or whitish diarrhœa. It is especially in smokers or after the abuse of mercury that we would have the most need for Hepar.

[Raue gives: Sluggishness and inactivity of the bowels, in consequence of which the abdominal muscles must bear down in order to effect an evacuation, which is hard or not, but insufficient.]

## HYDRASTIS CANADENSIS.

**Stools:** Hard, knotty; Lumpy, covered with mucus.

**Before Stool:** Torpidity and want of desire; No stool except under the influence of a purgative.

**After Stool:** Long lasting pain in the rectum; hæmorrhoids and fainting.

**Concomitants:** Depression of spirits. General debility. Headache. Coated tongue. Impaired digestion; sour eructations; dull aching pain in the pit of the stomach, which produces a "gone" or faint feeling; feeling of weight in the stomach and epigastrium. Pain in the large intestines and rectum. Colic accompanied with fainting and heat in the intestines. Fetid flatus. Hæmorrhoids.

**Generalities:** In debilitated and enfeebled subjects, especially in those who have frequent recourse to purgatives. Also when constipation occurs in those who, after an active life, are confined to a sedentary one, or when the condition depends more upon a sluggish state of the bowels than upon any diseased condition of the system.

Dr. Hughes says: I do not know of a remedy which is of greater service in simple constipation than Hydrastis. In very chronic cases it might be better to commence the treatment with Sulphur, and continue it for a short time. Hydrastis having

a well-known action upon the liver and having cured jaundice, it may be possible that a great part of its power over constipation is due to its action upon this organ. It is in those cases in which constipation exists alone or is the cause of other sufferings that I find *Hydrastis* so useful.

Ruddock considers the action of *Hydrastis* in constipation to be that of a general and local tonic.

The tincture and lower dilutions are recommended.

The accompanying observations show that the field of action of *Hydrastis* is extensive, and comprehends not only idiopathic constipation, but also hæmorrhoidal constipation and that of pregnant women and of infants. The observation of Dr. Rogerson proves also that certain gastro-hepatic disorders do not contra-indicate this valuable remedy, the knowledge of which we owe to Dr. Hale.

*Case 14.*—M. S., 38 years of age, came to the dispensary in the following condition: For the last eight months, she has been suffering with constipation, and during this time she has not had more than one or two stools a week, and then only with the aid of medicine; she has taken, generally the oil and pills of the *Ricinus communis*, and in consequence complains of continual pain in the head, more especially in the morning; bad taste in the mouth with coated tongue; pain in the back and shoulders; sensation of constriction in the hypogastric region, which was only relieved by means of a purgative; yellow or rather bilious tint, skin smooth and dry, severe pain after each stool, which were hard and knotty, and of a brown or gray color. I gave *Hydras. can.*, morning and evening, and forbade the use of laxatives; at the end of four days, the headache was better, as also the pains in the back and shoulders, she had had one stool; four days later the headache and pains had entirely disappeared; the

stools were easy and normal, the face was no longer yellow, the appetite was better, and at the end of four weeks she was entirely well.—*Dr. Kogerson.*

*Case 15.*—Mme. B—, 32 years of age, blue eyes, light-colored hair, delicate skin, mother of two children, the youngest of whom was six years old, has had for three years painful hæmorrhoids, with paroxysms of headache and constipation; she complained of severe burning, smarting pains in the rectum, before and after each stool; colic pains, with attacks of faintness and heat in the intestines often follow the evacuations, after a constipation of several days. Two physicians of the old-school and one of the new-school have attempted the cure. As I had overcome similar symptoms in another patient, six months before, I resolved to give this one *Hydrastis can.* Ten days after taking it she had an evacuation without pain, and in three weeks she was cured; the trouble has not reappeared, now one year after recovery. For fifteen years she had used tea and coffee.—*Dr. E. B. Brown.*

*Case 16.*—A young married woman, brunette, black eyes, delicate features, but strong and energetic, consulted me in May, 1865, for constipation and hæmorrhoids. She was in the second month of her third pregnancy, and under the treatment of the old-school, she had suffered severely from these same troubles in her former pregnancies. She was only able at that time to have an evacuation by the aid of injections. She complained at the present time of severe pain during stool, but no hæmorrhage. I gave without success, for four weeks, *Nux. vom.*, at first in the 3d and then in the 1st; *Hydrastis can.*, two drops of the 10th, at night, relieved her promptly, and after using this medicine for two or three months, the intestines resumed their natural functions, which continued until confinement.—*Dr. H. B. Clark.*

*Case 17.*—Mme. H—, 26 years of age, blond, pale complexion delicate constitution, a tea-drinker since infancy; for 10 to 12 years, she has suffered with attacks of constipation with hæmorrhoides. Three weeks after the birth of her first and only child, she was seized, while at stool, with severe pains in the rectum and anus. These severe, burning, stinging pains, lasted often for 6–8 hours after each evacuation, and were accompanied with a sensation of heat in the intestines, colic pains and fainting. She had every week one or two very hard, but natural-colored, stools. There was no prolapse of the rectum and no pain in this

region, except during an evacuation and for several hours after. These symptoms persisted without any modification for two months, notwithstanding the use of Ignatia, Nux vom., Pulsat., Sulph., Nitr. acid, warm water injections, and warm sitz-baths. In seeking for some help among the new remedies, I chose Hydrastis as the most appropriate, and gave it in the tincture, not having any other preparation at hand; three drops in a half glass of water, a teaspoonful every six hours. At the end of two weeks, the rectal pains had entirely disappeared and the stools were regular; the colic, faintings and abdominal heat soon disappeared, and the patient was well. There has been no return of the trouble for eighteen months.—*Dr. E. B. Brown.*

*Case 18.*—A child of one year of age, of a constipated habit since birth, was radically cured by the tincture of Hydrastis, one drop twice a day, after cathartics and injections had shown themselves ineffectual.—*Dr. G. C. Hibbard.*

*Case 19.*—S. H., aged 29 years, complaining of sore neck and throat, the latter much relaxed and inflamed; headache, cough and spit; pain in the side while stooping and rising from a recumbent position; bad breath; tongue foul and coated with a thick, white fur; appetite bad, and bowels for some six or eight weeks very much confined; had been obliged to resort to purgatives every Saturday; the bowels were generally moved three or four times every Sunday, and not again until the medicine was repeated on the following Saturday. Hydrastis (dose not given) was given every morning and evening. At the end of two weeks the cure was complete.—*Dr. Robertson* in *Hempel and Arndt's Mat. Med.*

*Case 20.*—A stout, large-frame man, upward of 60 years of age, an inmate of The Little Sisters of the Poor, had been a few years ago unable to walk in consequence of severe spasmodic, drawing, contracting pains through the thighs and calves of the legs, but which Nux vom., tincture, seemed to relieve, (at least he began to walk and still continues to walk about the house), soon after taking this drug. But constipation has been persistent in his case, accompanied by "severe pains" (undescribed) in the region of the liver and extending around the body. Nux, tincture, Podophyllum, tincture, Dioscorea<sup>1</sup>, Gelsemium<sup>1</sup>, etc., failed to relieve. He could only obtain a scanty movement by the use of small pieces of rhubarb. When the bowels were free, the general conditions were better. Hydrastis<sup>2</sup>, five drops night and morning and continued for several weeks, has caused

a movement of the bowels to take place every day, while the pain in the side is markedly improved. The pain in the legs is unchanged and walking is difficult.—*T. M. S.*

## IGNATIA.

**Stools:** Large and soft, but passed with difficulty; Sometimes whitish; Involuntary.

**Before Stool:** Pressing and ineffectual desire for stool.

**During Stool:** Violent urging, more in the upper intestines and epigastrium than in the anus; the desire is actively felt, and yet only a little matter escapes, although it may be soft. The least effort causes prolapse of the rectum. Hæmorrhoids protrude and bleed.

**After Stool:** Painful constriction of the anus, worse while standing; Stinging in the anus extending into the rectum; Dull pain in the rectum as if it was distended with gas; Long-lasting desire for stool; Hæmorrhoids.

**Concomitants:** [Feeling of emptiness or gone-ness in the stomach, not relieved by eating, with flat taste and languor in the limbs; excessive flatulence; gastralgia with stinging pains; sensation of itching and crawling in the rectum as from pin-worms. Nervous and hysterical symptoms in females of mild, but easily excited nature.] Aggravation from cold or from carriage-riding.

**Generalities:** Constipation of a paralytic origin.

Dr. Dunham writes: The evacuation of fæces is difficult, because of a seeming inactivity of the rectum; cannot make a violent effort to expel them without danger of eversion and prolapsus of the rectum.

Bertholdi writes: The constipation, often very painful, to which pregnant women are subject, is cured, when it does not proceed from a too sedentary habit of life, by means of *Nux vom.* and *Ignatia*, remedies which we alternate with success.

This remedy is also recommended for the constipation accompanying fissure of the anus, and in nervous troubles with spasms.

## IRIS VERSICOLOR.

Dr. Claude, of Paris, says that *Iris vers.* possesses a very marked alterative effect which not only appears in connection with a certain dilution, independent of the constitution of the patient, but the other pathogenetic symptoms due to the lower dilutions persist under this dilution as well as in others still more elevated. In Hale's *New Remedies* diarrhœa is constantly indicated with signs which relate to an action at once pathogenetic and curative. Constipation is noted without any additional symptoms, and only once; like Hale, Ruddock and

Hughes, who give among the clinical indications "diarrhœa, dysentery, cholera-infantum, migraine, sea-sickness, salivation," do not mention the constipation in which Iris has rendered me great service, but in dilutions above the 6th.

It is very remarkable that, if the intestinal phenomena of this medicine changes with the dilutions, they do not alter its action upon the salivary glands, facial neuralgia and migraine.

The following observation is very characteristic :

*Case 21.*—Mrs. E—, 43 years of age by birth Irish, small in stature, black hair, blue eyes, active disposition, slight icteric taint. This patient lived almost exclusively on tea and coffee which she took very strong. She suffers from hæmorrhoids and obstinate constipation. Her periods are irregular and accompanied by colic and sick headache; the latter affecting the forehead and eyes and aggravated by noise and light. I visited this lady one day when her son-in-law, an old-school physician, told me she was not able to see me, on account of her condition. He added, that for many years, he had tried different modes of treatment but all in vain, and he would be glad to see homœopathy make an attempt. I gave Iris vers.<sup>80</sup>, and in a short time there was a copious and semi-liquid stool of yellow substance. She slept for an hour and was then able to raise herself. The son-in-law made a note of the remedy and promised to try it on the first opportunity. At the following period she was again attacked and she was given some of the Tincture of Iris. No result. The doctor came to my office and reproached me for deceiving him. I gave him a vial of the 30th dilution. He reported in the evening and begged pardon for his accusation; the remedy had acted. The patient still continues to use the 30th dilution of Iris with great benefit. (We ought however to say that, according to Dr. Willmar Schwabe, Iris vers., in the 2d dilution, is urged by the American physicians as a very certain means against constipation.)—*Dr. Claude.*

The constipation which is the province of Iris



vers. according to Dr. Claude, does not demand a special temperament like *Nux vom.*, a constitutional alteration like *Sulphur*; it does not present any marked preference for a season like *Bryonia*, or for sex like *Pulsatilla* or *Sepia*. It has rather something of the inertia of *Opium*, and when it yields it does so after a resistance which is not very prolonged. Very often, but not always, it is accompanied by a migraine not aggravated by light, noise and motion (motion may even ameliorate) and is often ushered in by the following premonitory phenomenon: "spots before the eyes, veil before the eyes."

[We may briefly summarize this remedy as follows: Constant nausea and bitter vomiting; bitter eructations; intense burning distress throughout the whole epigastrium; constant colic with cutting pains; migraine; nervousness; constipation succeeded by thin, watery diarrhœa.]

## KALI BICHROMICUM.

**Stools:** Hard, dry, knotty, difficult. In one mass, of excessive hardness; Pale, clay-colored.

**During Stool:** Difficult expulsion with painful retraction of the anus.

**After Stool:** Burning in the anus (knotty and dry stools); Falling of the rectum.

**Concomitants:** Headache; Coated tongue, loss of

appetite; Cutting pains in the lower intestines, and rumbling of gas in the upper. Colic pains. Sensation of a plug in the rectum with soreness. Pains across the loins with coldness of the extremities. Debility. During an emission of wind per anum, sweat all over the body, but especially on the face, from which it runs in streams. During the menses very hard stools, and when they delay there is painful retraction of the anus. Tough secretions from all of the mucous membranes.

**Generalities:** Tendency to constipation, and especially when there exists an aggravation of general symptoms in consequence of its presence.

Constipation which returns every three months.

*Case 22.*—N. A., aged 30 years, consulted me for the following symptoms: Want of appetite; fullness at the chest; a great deal of flatulence; taste of rotten eggs, with constant nausea; great dislike of fat meat; tongue reddish and rough; headache; sharp, shooting, stabbing pains extending all over the head, pains worse in the afternoon and evening; bowels obstinately constipated. The patient was getting very weak, since she could take but little nourishment. She complained of great heat of the body on walking about. Her eyes felt weak and there was a great deal of pain in the eyeballs. Great drowsiness and languor in the daytime, with sleeplessness at night. Sharp, shooting, aching pain, frequently existed in the sides and back. *Kali bichrom*<sup>3</sup>, taken four times a day, soon cured the patient.—*Dr. A. E. Hawkes* in *Hempel and Arndt*.

## KALI CARBONICUM.

**Stools:** Dry and large; Retarded and difficult because excrements are so large.

**Before Stool:** Feeling of anguish and distress for an hour or two before stool; Rectum inactive; Unsuccessful desire; White mucous discharge.

**During Stool:** Rectum feels too weak to expel the fæces: [Protrusion and distension of the hæmorrhoids with pricking and burning.]

**After Stool:** Itching about the anus: [Severe lancinating, tearing and cutting pains in the anus; Violent pain in the small of the back as if broken.]

**Generalities:** Kafka recommends Kali carb. for women whose abdominal organs are very weak, in consequence of frequent miscarriages or multiple and difficult labors; when, on account of the inactivity due to abdominal pressure, the evacuations only occur with great difficulty.

Willmar Schwabe gives this remedy when the patient suffers from nightsweats (*Natrum mur.*, on the contrary, has diurnal sweats).

*Case 23.*—P. K., a married man, age 36 years, consulted me Sept. 23, 1850. He complained of cardiac palpitations, of a feeling of distension in the breast, constipation and night sweats. I gave Kali c., for a week. On Sept. 30th there was an improvement in the palpitations and constipation, but the night sweats still persisted; the remedy was given at longer intervals and by Oct. 14th the cure was complete.—*Dr. John Epps.*

[*Dr. Stens:* Stools only every eight to ten days of very large lumps. Kali carb.<sup>30</sup>.]

## LACHESIS.

**Stools:** Scanty, grayish like potters' clay; Hard like sheep-dung; Hard and difficult; Frequent and hard; Hard, scanty, insufficient; Offensive.

**Before Stool:** Ineffectual urging; Constant and very painful pressure in the rectum, without stool; Constriction in the rectum or sensation of a plug in the anus.

**During Stool:** Great effort; Pain as if the sphincter was torn with the effort; Tearing pains in the rectum from below upward and backward, to the point of producing eructations; Fæces remain at the anus; Aggravation of pains, so that it is necessary to cease all efforts.

**After Stool:** Hæmorrhoids protrude, with constriction of the sphincter; Beating in the anus as from hammers; Rectum prolapsed and tumefied.

**Concomitants:** Lassitude, anxiety and symptoms of mental alienation. Cephalalgia. Tearing pains and burning in the eyes, especially in the upper lids; pains in the eyes from reading by artificial light. Coryza. Appetite good. Violent pains in the stomach. Weight and pressure in the stomach and distress from flatulency. Ineffectual efforts at eructations. Incarcerated flatulency and oppression of the stomach. Abdomen hard and bloated. Insensibility of the rectum. Pains in the back in the lumbar

region, above the left hip, and a dull pain in the vesical region. Burning urination. Cold feet; icy coldness of the soles of the feet or on the outer side of the left leg. Scanty menses.

**Generalities:** Obstinate constipation. Alternation of constipation and diarrhœa. Constipation in healthy persons without any other symptom. Absence of stool in persons suffering from hydrothorax. For sedentary persons, and for women at the climacteric. Constipation with black tongue and lips in scarlatina.

M. Teste says that the pathogenesis of *Lachesis* presents many symptoms similar to *Belladonna*, but with some difference in the chronological order of their manifestations, and with a persistent character, which might lead to the supposition that *Lachesis* corresponds to the chronic diseases of which *Belladonna* offers us, in a certain degree, the acute form.

## LYCOPodium.

**Stools:** Very hard; Small and incomplete evacuations; Broken masses, mixed with, or followed by, a liquid discharge.

**Before Stool:** Strong desire, or the desire may be wanting; Flatulent colic; Pain at the anus; Straining efforts, often followed by tenesmus.

**During Stool:** Pain in the rectum, with ringing in the ears; Difficult stools, evacuated only after very great efforts.

**After Stool:** Pains similar to those during stool, with syncope; Sensation as though all the fæcal mass had not passed, followed by excessive and painful accumulation of flatus, contractive pain in the perineum after a scanty, hard stool.

**Concomitants:** Hypochondriacal. Painful tympanitis of the abdomen, with flatulency (also *Carbo veg.*). Indigestion resulting from a too free use of a farinaceous, heavy and fermentable diet. Acidity and heartburn, together with an irresistible drowsiness after dinner, followed by great exhaustion. Disagreeable weight in the hypogastrium; sensation of gurgling in the abdomen; borborygmus, especially in the left side under the ribs. Distention of the abdomen without the escape of gas or without any relief following its passage; the flatulency is odorless (fetid, *Carbo veg.*). Itching and tension in the anus in the evening in bed; itching eruption at the anus painful to the touch. Violent dorsal pains before the emission of urine; difficult urination; cutting or burning pains in the urethral canal; urine with a reddish sediment.

In connection with chronic intestinal catarrh, we have: Weakened nutrition, dirty-gray or copper coloration of the face, moroseness, dejection.

Hæmorrhoids with pain and itching at the anus, and frequent, profuse discharge of blood.

**Generalities:** In obstinate cases, with an almost complete state of atony of the intestines (see *Natrum mur.*). Also in the constipation of infants and the hæmorrhoidal diathesis. It is employed by Dr. Hughes, following Teste, in the dangerous form of enteritis developed in children by a diet consisting only of milk and farinaceous substances, and which they are unable to digest; here also, when *Lycopodium* fails, *Nux* succeeds.

Hartmann says that *Lycopodium*<sup>30</sup> is one of the most useful remedies in the constipation of infants for restoring the contractility of the intestines which have been lost.

Jahr gives this drug when neither Sulphur nor Calcarea have been sufficient to overcome the predisposition to constipation, with ineffectual desire, or hard stools and difficult evacuation.

Kafka says that *Lycopodium* should be carefully studied in relation to chronic intestinal catarrh with sluggishness of the peristaltic movements; it is also of service in the constipation of those who are tormented with night pollutions or addicted to masturbation; after repeated affections of the peritoneum with urinary complications. This remedy has been of service to him in a case of fatty degeneration of the liver with concomitant venous hyperæmia.

The flatulent colics, bloating, and constipation following the disappearance of eruptions upon the skin, are valuable indications for *Lycopodium*.

[Dr. Lilienthal adds to the general outline of this drug: Abdominal plethora, with constipation in elderly people of the higher classes, with no desire for stool.]

*Carbo veg.* alternated at intervals of every eight days, very often facilitates the action of *Lycopodium*.

Dr. Hughes says: *Lycopodium* holds a high rank as a remedy for constipation, very much resembling *Bryonia*.

The remedy should be given in the medium and higher attenuations, and continued for a long time.

*Case 24.*—A man, 38 years of age, of ordinary constitution, was in unusual good health with the exception of a constipation which he could only remove with purgatives. For the last three years this constipation had increased to such a degree as to almost resist the action of purgatives. Each evacuation produced the most terrible pains in the rectum, and sometimes left the patient in a state of syncope for a quarter of an hour. Even when the paroxysms were lighter, the patient remained for several hours unable to make the least movement on account of the persistence of the pains. The mucous membrane of the rectum was very much injected, excoriated in some places, with slight varicosity of the veins. The most careful touch gave rise to acute pains, and cramp-like constriction of the sphincter. Loss of appetite and bad humor. General condition good. *Bell.*, and for a month *Nux. vom.*, gave slight relief. *Lycopodium*<sup>6</sup> (five drops morning and evening) brought amelioration within a few days, and a complete cure within three months.—*Dr. Hilberger.*



**MAGNESIA MURIATICUM.**

**Stools:** Hard, nodular, insufficient and delayed; Crumbling at the verge of the anus and seem as if burnt; Large, hard lumps or knotty, like sheep's dung; Fæces covered with mucus and blood.

**Before Stool:** Painful urgings.

**During Stool:** Painful urgings with occasional discharge of mucus; Pressure, with scanty passage or only flatus.

**After Stool:** Burning at the anus; Shuddering for a short time.

**Concomitants:** Earthy complexion. Good appetite. Nausea in the morning. Swelling of the abdomen, with cuttings and pinchings. Pain and distress every few days in the hypogastric region. Cramps in hysterical women who waste freely and have a tendency to constipation. Weakness and chill, increasing during the continuance of the hysterical accident; globus hystericus and oppression of the breath.

**Generalities:** Constipation of infants during dentition.

Boenninghausen places *Magnesia mur.* in the first rank for constipation on account of the hardness of the excrements.

Schwabe places the drug in the same class as *Calcareo carb.* and *Carbo veg.*

*Case 25.*—Child, aged 2 years. Diarrhœa and cough for several months; all at once the child became constipated, but the cough continued. Nux. vom. and Bryonia were given, but the stools only became harder, and would crumble when escaping from the anus. Magnesia mur.<sup>6</sup>, five doses, and the next day the stools were natural and the cough gone.—*Dr. Lehman* in *Raue's Record*, 1871, p. 120.

*Case 26.*—A lady, age 26, was confined two years ago, and since that time has been troubled with constipation. Stools, large and in hard lumps; bowels move about every eight days. Every few days has pain and distress in the hypogastric region; pale and weak, otherwise well. Is in the habit of taking a cathartic every three days. Magnesia mur.<sup>200</sup>, acted in twenty-four hours like a cathartic, but without pain, and in two weeks she reported herself as having a natural stool daily.—*Dr. W. H. Burt* in *Raue's Record*, 1872, p. 150.

## MERCURIUS.

**Stools:** Hard; Tenacious or crumbling; Small, knotty masses; Small, like sheep dung; Pale, white stools; Small pieces, pale, with mucus or streaked with blood; In the form of a narrow ribbon.

**Before Stool:** Frequent desire, worse at night; Ineffectual straining; Protrusion of hæmorrhoids with the straining, which causes a pain as of ulceration.

**During Stool:** Great straining with scanty stool, with pinchings in the belly; Severe pains at the anus; Evacuation after a great length of time.

**After Stool:** Continued tenesmus and prolapsus ani; Bleeding hæmorrhoids.

**Concomitants:** Catarrhal fever and debility. Mi-

graine. Bad taste in the mouth ; pain in the gums ; loss of, or irregular, appetite, or the appetite may not be impaired to a great extent ; disgust for all substances, except for beer ; salivation. Fullness and hardness of the abdomen ; colic. Various manifestations of bilious symptoms. Yellow color of the skin and conjunctiva.

**Generalities:** Hirschell calls attention to Mercurius for the constipation which follows diarrhœa in acute cases, after a chill, and when there are gastric or inflammatory symptoms.

Espanet says, that the Corrosive sublimate is very useful in the constipation from pseudo-membranous inflammation of some portion of the large intestine and in hæmorrhoidal colic with congestion of the liver and abdominal venous stasis.

Calomel, writes Dr. Gerson, of Dresden, seems to be more efficacious than Mercurius solubilis in the so-called hæmorrhoidal colic, when it calls in general for Mercurius, in the subjects who have a well-marked condition of venous stasis in the lower abdomen, with a full and hard pulse, an obstinate constipation, and where the inguinal glands, as well as the left lobe of the liver, are slightly inflamed and tumefied. According to my experience Calomel appears to be almost a specific for obstinate constipation, where the signs of a violent hyperæmia of the

mesocolon or a circumscribed exudative inflammation of the mucous membrane are present as objective causes of the constipation.

[Hempel and Arndt in speaking of *Mercurius sol.* in its relation to constipation write: Mercury will be found useless, unless this condition is depending on, or connected with, torpor of the liver or of the pancreatic gland. Constipation may be a sequel of previous bilious or pancreatic diarrhœa. In such a case, Mercury is in homœopathic rapport with it. The bowels may not be moved more than once or twice a week; the fæces have a dark-brown or green color; they are discharged in lumpy masses or balls loosely hanging together and covered with intestinal mucus. The cul-de-sac, or pouch of the rectum, sometimes becomes a receptacle for these lumpy masses, where they agglomerate in one compact ball, the passage of which through the rectum sometimes causes a great deal of acute pain, and may even be attended with slight hæmorrhage. Sometimes the constipation is interrupted by an occasional attack of bilious diarrhœa.]

Jahr calls attention to *Staphysagria* for constipation with bad taste in the mouth, irregular appetite and pain in the gums, in those cases where *Mercurius* does not suffice.

*Case 27.*—Chronic constipation, in a patient who presented a jaundiced teint, and suffered with pain in the liver and right

shoulder with frequent nausea and obstinate chronic constipation, Mercurius cor., soon removed the whole trouble.—*Dr. Usscher.*

## MEZEREUM.

**Stools:** Hard, brown, ball-shaped ; Dark-brown, in knots, very hard balls.

**Before Stool:** Creeping chills, languor and great sensibility to cold air ; Copious discharge of fetid flatulence.

**During Stool:** Painless straining ; Prolapsus recti ; Anus becomes painful and constricted about the fallen rectum ; Difficult alvine evacuations, of the consistency of a thick broth, with pressing desire.

**After Stool:** Sensation of constriction, with tenesmus ; Chill over the whole body ; Fissure of the anus.

*Case 28.*—A woman who was approaching the years of the climaxis, suffered continually from extraordinary congestions to the head, with burning redness of the face, obstinate constipation. Menses always very copious and too soon. Calcarea, Carbo veg., and Bryonia, relieved only for a time. Last autumn, she was attacked with fearful pains in four hollow teeth, which left her no repose either day or night. The carious condition of the teeth and the general chilliness during the pains led me to give Mezereum<sup>s</sup>. The pains in the teeth were cured and the constipation removed.—*Dr. Veith.*

## NATRUM MURIATICUM.

**Stools:** Hard, difficult, crumbling ; Large masses ; Indolent, irregular, or alternating with diarrhœa.

**Before Stool:** Frequent desire but without result; Inactivity of the rectum and no desire; Burning in the rectum.

**During Stool:** Pulsation, contraction, and a lancinating pain at the anus as from ulceration; Tenesmus; Hæmorrhage from the rectum.

**After Stool:** Burning and smarting in the anus and rectum; Ripping up sensation in the anus; Tenesmus; Fissures with bleeding and smarting, burning, pains; Hæmorrhoids with stinging pains and soreness at the anus; Prolapsus ani.

**Concomitants:** Depression of spirits. Disturbed mental condition. Dryness of the mouth; superficial ulcerations of the tongue. Irritability and persistent dryness of the mucous membranes, with tendency to catarrhal affections. A greater or less number of gastric pains, with loss of appetite, heartburn, eructations, rarely sour, more often burning, as when after eating some article of food fried in rancid butter. Pressive pain running from the navel to the pelvis. A sensation as of a weight hanging across the pelvis and bladder, aggravated during motion, and compelling the patient to bend forward when seated. Moisture and herpetic eruptions about the anus. Pressive pain in the left side of the hypogastrium. Swelling of the abdomen. Cutting pains through the bowels during the day. Gurgling of wind through the bowels. Excessive sensitiveness

to cold. Perspiration on slight motion. Irritability of the skin; dirty-colored skin; eczema, acne and pustules.

**Generalities:** Hæmorrhoidal constipation. A constipation accompanied with a state of weakness or inaction of the intestines, seems to be more characteristic of this remedy, than the frequent urging. In cases of great atony of the intestines, so that they do not assist in the evacuations of the fæces. Chronic constipation ameliorated or aggravated according to the activity or inertia of the intestines. In obstinate constipation when the intestine presents a state of torpor almost equivalent to paralysis, but without pain, and when for days and weeks there is no desire to go to stool; when, finally, the hardness, dryness, and size of the fæcal mass produces, mechanically, fissures and consequent tearing and burning pains in the anus. In cases accompanied by tumefaction of the liver or spleen, fatty degeneration of the heart or valvular lesions. The indications for *Natrum mur.* are analogous to those of *Lycopodium*, and the two remedies may often be alternated with success. *Espanet* ranges *Natrum mur.* by the side of *Cuprum* and *Plumbum* for constipation followed by colic and diarrhœa. In cases where a chronic constipation has resisted *Sulphur* and *Nux vom.* If the patient uses salt in excess, it will be necessary to correct this habit, and give at first *Spir. dulc., nitr.* or

Arsenic as antidotes. [Phosphorus (abuse of salt in food); Arsenic (bad effects of sea-bathing).]

*Case 29.*—Xavier Spiss, aged 11 years, born of scrofulous parents; his oldest brother is a mute and almost an idiot; he himself is a mute and idiotic, with puny appearance of body and limbs; the abdomen is large and hangs upon the thighs, it is tympanitic, hard, and on deep pressure nodulated tumors can be felt; he cannot walk or even stand upright; he remains seated in his cradle and swings back and forth day and night; he sleeps very little and with the exception of water, milk, potatoes and brown bread he refuses all nourishment. This poor creature has suffered since his birth, with constipation. Injections of all kinds, aperients, resolvents, laxatives, and purgatives have been administered, from the prune juice and castor oil, to gamboge and croton oil. At 8 years of age, he would go three or four weeks without stool; during the first two weeks of this period, the child did not appear to suffer, but toward the third week the appetite diminished, the child cried, held the bowels with the hands, rolled over, pulled at the hair and sometimes vomited sour mucus or food. All injections and purgatives seemed to lose their power. Between the twentieth and thirtieth day there would occur a massive, black, hard stool, which was accompanied by a bloody discharge and prolapse of the rectum, which was fissured; during the stool the child uttered piercing cries, and afterward was pale, prostrate, and tranquil. On Nov. 19th, when the constipation had been present for three weeks, I gave the patient a dose of *Natrum m.*<sup>12</sup>. On the morrow he had a stool without pain. I then ordered the mother to give him a dose twice a week; but the effect did not respond to my expectation, although I had varied the 12th with the 3d and 30th dilutions. In February I prescribed one globule of the 30th, dry, upon the tongue, in the morning while fasting, twelve or fourteen days after the stool. The action was prompt and persistent; each time that the medicine was given, the child had, on the following night and succeeding morning a copious and free evacuation, and for the last three months the stools are regular, at the same intervals, even without medicine, for they often forget to give it. It was not necessary, perhaps, to give the medicine every fifteen days, for if we can believe our experimenters, the action of *Natrum m.*<sup>30</sup> continues for forty or fifty days.—*Dr. Gross.*



## NITRIC ACID.

**Stools:** Dry, difficult, irregular ; Like sheep-dung, accompanied by a mucous secretion ; Alternately firm and liquid.

**Before Stool:** Continual but fruitless desire for stool ; Ineffectual urging ; Colic pains.

**During Stool:** Prolonged straining (even with soft stool) ; Sensation as if part of the fæces remained in the rectum and could not be expelled ; Sharp, splinter-like, cutting pains in rectum during stool (with ineffectual urging) ; Burning in rectum toward the perineum ; Tearing, spasmodic pains (fissures in anus) ; Pressure upon the rectum with desire for stool, but only a little passes.

**After Stool:** Burning in rectum with shooting pains ; Painful prolapsus of the rectum, and sensation of constriction of anus ; Colic pains and great prostration ; Painful hæmorrhoids with hæmorrhages.

**Generalities:** Hæmorrhoidal constipation.

Hahnemann says : This medicine is better suited to brunettes who have a rigid fibre, than to the blondes whose fibres are dry. The MM. Simon in translating the works of Hahnemann render this passage somewhat different : "This medicine suits better those subjects who have brown hair and rigid fibre, than those with soft fibre and blonde hair." They add in parenthesis that Nitric acid will be

rarely chosen for lymphatic temperaments and scrofulous constitutions.

Dr. Chargé says : It is especially in intestinal dyspepsia, when the characteristic feature of the case is constipation, that Nitric acid has shown its superiority. This constipation lasts for several days but does not give rise to pain. The pains in the rectum after stool may be prolonged for some time, and not depend on the difficulty of the defecation, for they often happen even after a liquid stool occurring accidentally.

The MM. Simon write : Suitable for certain dyspeptic conditions characterized by disgust for fatty food, nausea, swelling of the stomach and bowels in consequence of an enormous collection of gas, great sensibility of the abdomen to the influence of cold, soft or hard stools which are difficult to expel.

[Hempel and Arndt write : Constipation may find its remedy in Nitric acid, if the patient is of a bilious habit, laboring under tedious hepatic derangements, syphilitic affections, or suffering from the effects of Mercury. Dry, difficult stools, preceded and followed by colicky pains, and followed by great prostration. Such a state of affairs is frequently found during convalescence from a protracted and severe fit of sickness.]

Dr. I. Guérin-Menneville says : In later years Nitric acid has taken a front place among the remedies for

*cough.* Sir Duncan Gobb has written a book upon whooping cough for the purpose of exalting its virtues. Dr. Bayes says: "Another affection in which Nitric acid has rendered service is the chronic laryngeal cough without expectoration, and which is characterized by a sensation of pricking or excoriation, as if there existed there a small ulcer, and which is generally felt upon one side." Dr. Dyce Brown has recommended it in several forms of disease of which laryngeal cough is one of the dominant traits, and especially in those cases where there is a general physical depression. Dr. Brown also mentions the peculiar constipation of Nitric acid in the cases of cough, and he adds that he had seen it disappear so often under the use of this drug, that he conceived the idea of employing it for this affection itself and with so great a success that he places this remedy in the front rank among the efficient means for its treatment.

## NUX VOMICA.

**Stools:** Inefficient, black, hard, often streaked with blood; Large, hard stools; Black, dark, or brown in color, and hard and knotty in appearance (*see Æsculus h.*).

**Before Stool:** Ineffectual urging, painful, almost constant, desire for stool; Pressure in the rectum,

with lumbar pains; Sensation as though the anus was firmly closed and narrowed. (*see* Opium).

**After Stool:** Relief.

**Concomitants:** Oppression of spirits; dislike for work and thought. Insomnia, anxiety and chilliness. Passive frontal headache, with or without congestion to the head, worse in the mornings. A marked degree of nervous erethism with a tendency to hypochondriacism or anger. Qualmishness in the epigastrium and abdomen. Dyspnœa from pressure upward of the diaphragm in consequence of the accumulation of gas. Distention of the abdomen, weight and pressure in the region of the stomach or spleen; at times cutting pains in the lower bowels with occasional eructation or flatulency (emissions which give slight relief). Heat, and stitching pains in the side; weight in the hypogastrium. Loss of appetite, bitter taste in the mouth, mucous coating of the tongue. Catarrh of the stomach with excessive acidity and flatulency (aggravated still further by the use of starchy foods). Alternation of diarrhœa and constipation. Hæmorrhoids, painful and protruding, or attended with hæmorrhage.

**Generalities:** Suitable for constipation arising from hæmorrhoidal and dyspeptic troubles.

Where there is an irritability of the intestinal tube (there is often in such cases some hæmorrhagic irritation, in which the alternation of Bryonia with the

*Nux vom.* renders good service). *Nux* here, as in other troubles, is especially serviceable for those persons who lead a sedentary life, or are suffering from the effects due to prolonged night-watching, nursing, or mental overwork, or those who use in excess spirituous liquors, or overload the digestive tract with highly-seasoned food, or from abuse of purgatives or sexual excitement due to onanism, or when the constipation has been preceded by a diarrhœa or is the consequence of its sudden checking. It is also recommended for the constipation of pregnant women. Also for active, irritable infants, and for those who have been prematurely fed on meat, or when the trouble arises from the excessive use of coffee by the mother or nurse. It is suitable in the beginning of infantile constipation, as well as later, when the condition has given rise to various concomitant abdominal symptoms. According to Hartmann, benefit is often derived, in such cases, from the intercurrent use of *Bryonia*<sup>18</sup>, while Knorr considers Sulphur as one of the best alternating remedies.

Rueckert considers *Nux vom.* to be generally indicated: 1. In pregnant women who do not complain of any other symptom, and also in children under the same circumstances. 2. When the constipation is idiopathic, especially when the abuse of coffee seems to be the cause.

The absence of all desire for defecation or a want

of agreement of the muscles which act in this function are positive contra-indications for the use of *Nux vom.*

Dr. Hughes recalls the words of Schröder von der Kolk: A long experience and numerous autopsies have proven to me that chronic constipation is almost always dependent upon contraction of the descending colon. To this Dr. Hughes adds, that in regard to the constipation of *Nux vom.* Dr. Carroll Dunham is right when he says: "This medicine does not diminish the action of the intestines, it rather augments it, but at the same time renders it irregular and spasmodic, preventing in consequence, instead of aiding in, the evacuations. It is for this reason that the constipation characteristic of *Nux* is accompanied with frequent desire but ineffectual efforts for stool, the action of the intestine being irregular and spasmodic; the constipation being the result of the irregularity in the action, and not of the inaction."

On the other hand, we would call the attention of our readers to the fact, that the physiological interpretation given by the authors mentioned above, upon the action of *Nux vom.* in constipation, is not accepted by all writers, especially in Germany. Thus Kafka writes in connection with the treatment of chronic intestinal catarrh: "*Nux vom.* administered in small doses, and not repeated too often, exercises a marked action upon the muscular tissue of the intes-

tine. I insist upon the inactivity of the intestine in consequence of a diminution of the peristaltic movement as characteristic of *Nux vomica*." Willmar Schwabe also considers *Nux vom.* as suitable for chronic intestinal catarrh with constipation from diminution of the peristaltic movement.

In that which concerns the dose, we find the divergences of opinions which separates the homœopathic school into numerous camps, on the question of therapeutics. This is a clinical problem not yet elucidated, and which we shall only discuss incidentally. We would only say that if M. Jousset prefers the 12th dilution of *Nux vom.* in the treatment of constipation, others administer the 30th, others, again, the dilution of Jenichen, or even those of Fimcke. On the other hand we read in Rueckert: "In constipation I give *Nux vom.*<sup>1</sup>, while at the same time the question might be asked if we would not obtain better results with the tincture than with the dilutions."

*Case 30.*—No stool for six days, vertigo and giddiness, weight in the head similar to that caused by drunkenness, especially in the morning, burning heat and redness of the face, dryness of the mouth, bitter acid taste, heartburn, malaise in the morning, pressure in the stomach, tension in the abdomen after eating but a small quantity, tearing pains in the hypochondrium, tenesmus, pains in the anus and kidneys, pressure and constriction in the breast, restless sleep at night, depression of spirits, sleepiness in the morning before rising, lassitude, relaxation of the whole body. One drop of *Nux vom.*, tinct., caused a cessation of all the pains.—*Dr. Knorre.*

*Case 31.*—A young woman who led a sedentary life, suffered for many months from a constipated habit and for the relief of which she was compelled to resort frequently to injections; she suffered from constant pain in the direction of the colon. *Nux vom.*<sup>30</sup> removed the abnormal condition and since that time the stools have been regular.—*Dr. Malaise.*

*Case 32.*—A young woman of strong constitution, a chambermaid, has been sick for three days. She suffers from the following symptoms: Great heat of the face, thirst, white-coated tongue, absence of stools for three days, languor, easily fatigued, the limbs are as stiff as boards and resist all movements, it is only with the greatest difficulty that she can ascend to the second story. I prescribed one drop of *Nux vom.*<sup>30</sup>. On the morrow all the morbid symptoms had disappeared, and the stools were regular.—*Idem.*

*Case 33.*—A woman, 29 years of age, confined six weeks before, experiences the following symptoms: Acute pains at the pit of the stomach; palpitation of the heart with bluish lips; obstinate constipation, two stools in ten days; pulsative and hammering pains in the forehead, aggravated whenever the pains in the stomach are more intense; dry cough for several days; cramp-like pains in the lower limbs; swelling of the feet in the evening. The infant which was nursed by the breast vomited frequently. The patient was given three globules of *Nux vom.*<sup>30</sup>. Ten days later the symptoms enumerated had disappeared and the mother and child enjoyed good health.—*Idem.*

Three points deserve our attention in these three observations by Dr. Malaise: 1. *Nux vomica* alone was sufficient for the cure; 2. It acted very rapidly; 3. It was employed in the 30th dilution. In the observation of Knorre given above, we find the same efficacy from the use of *Nux vomica* alone, and the same prompt action; but the remedy has been given in the mother tincture.

We will return, for the present, to the clinical collections of Rueckert and translate from them a



noteworthy case of hypochondriacal constipation which was cured in a short time by *Nux vom.* alone, but this time in the 3d dilution.

*Case 34.*—A teacher, age 40 years, having a tendency to constipation, suffered for six years from this infirmity until it became necessary to resort constantly to purgatives. The appetite was weak, tongue lightly coated, hunger soon appeased, eructations soon after eating, sensation of fullness and painful weight in the epigastrium. Regularly one hour after eating he suffered with flying chills followed by flashes of heat of equally short duration. Despondency which always increased after mid-day, accompanied with light vertigo and heat of the head, inability for intellectual work, constant preoccupation occasioned by a sensation of swelling of the abdomen. A stool every five or six days; after a purgative or injection there occurred a large, dry, stool, ordinarily in black balls, accompanied by severe pains and strong expulsive efforts of the rectum; the feet are habitually cold; the sleep does not refresh. The lungs, heart, liver and spleen are healthy. He bends forward, speech is embarrassed, the movements slow, gloomy expression of countenance with a dirty yellow complexion. Hypochondriacism bordering on melancholy. Old-school treatment and Carlsbad waters gave no relief. *Nux vom.*<sup>s</sup>, two drops every evening, was given. At the end of eight days there was amelioration and under the continuance of the remedy, a cure fifteen days after.—*Dr. Linder.*

We have in the *Homœo. Rundschau* for June, 1878, the following observation by Dr. Goullon on chronic infantile constipation; the interest attached to the case itself, the dose employed, and the familiar language of the recital, have led us to make a résumé translation of the article which is entitled, A Homœopathic Remedy Against Chronic Constipation:

*Case 35.*—Here is the demand which was addressed to me: "Have the kindness to send me a purgative for Eugenie, who is always constipated; she only has an evacuation every other day, notwithstanding the prunes, apples, brown bread, etc., which I give her. I have even resorted many times to injections, so

severe has been her sufferings." What reply ought a homœopathic physician to make to such a question? The child here spoken of, was otherwise in good health and of an almost athletic constitution, but the mother was a sufferer from hæmorrhoids. I took a small glass containing 100 drops of rectified alcohol. In this I placed two drops of the tincture of *Nux vom.*, shook the glass one hundred times, and prescribed two drops of the dilution, to be given night and morning, in a teaspoonful of water. Under this treatment the evacuations became regular in a short space of time; at first, they were still slightly painful, although daily, but at present the act is easily accomplished.—*Dr. Goullon.*

*Nux vom.*, adds Dr. Goullon, is, in a certain sense, a remedy for the rectum, as well as a remedy for spasmodic action; from this arises its value, together with *Belladonna*, in cases of strangulated hernia.

We will give here a personal observation, in which *Nux vom.*<sup>12</sup> acted very successfully.

*Case 36*—M. X., aged 35 years, consulted me on Dec. '12, 1877, for a constipation of seven years standing. This trouble, attributed by the local physician as due to a state of general debility, had been treated with repeated purgatives, together with a tonic regimen. Nothing had been accomplished. My patient is a man of nervous temperament, lean, blonde, somewhat passionate. Besides the constipation, which I suspect, notwithstanding the absence of personal or hereditary antecedents, to be in correlation with the existence of internal hæmorrhoids, there is dyspepsia, flatulence, tenesmus, and cardiac palpitations. I advised a lighter regimen and prescribed *Nux vom.*<sup>12</sup>, in water, a spoonful to be taken night and morning for three days. After an interval of eight days, Sulphur<sup>80</sup> was employed in the same manner. On Dec. 26th he returned, pleased with the marked amelioration which was manifested as soon as he began to take the *Nux*; the same prescription was repeated, except that the intervals between the two remedies was to be ten days instead of eight. On Feb. 8, 1878, M. X., came back to say that he thought himself cured. I however gave him *Lycopodium*<sup>200</sup>, on account of the slight persistence of intestinal flatulency. To-day the cure is complete.—*Dr. Bernard.*

[*Case 37.*—A gentleman had a diarrhœa, which he checked with brandy; constipation followed, with heaviness in the abdomen and occasional cramping pains. *Nux vom.*<sup>200</sup>, two doses, cured.—*Dr. Guernsey* in *Raue's Record*, 1870, p. 215.]

## OPIUM.

**Stools:** Small, hard, blackish or discolored balls; Large masses; Hard, and full of small masses; Hard, alternated with liquid, frothy stools.

**Before Stool:** No desire, or with the desire to go to stool, there is a sensation as though the anus was closed.

**Concomitants:** Nervous and irritable; head feels heavy and the thoughts are stupid. Congestion of blood to the head. Headache, vertigo, red face, sleepiness. Dryness of the mouth, thirst and want of appetite. Beating and sensation of heaviness in the abdomen with pressure over the stomach. Anxious sensation in the epigastrium [colic, with great pressure downward upon the rectum and bladder, without any passing off of gas, fæces or urine]. Retention of urine. Constipation alternating with a diarrhœa so painful that an attack of cholera morbus might be expected.

**Generalities:** The majority of authors recommend Opium for constipation or intestinal obstruction, when it is of a paralytic nature or associated with incarcerated hernia. It is one of the principal rem-

edies in lead colic ; also when the constipation is the result of pressure upon the rectum in consequence of a gravid uterus or abdominal tumors ; and for nursing infants, aged persons, and those of a torpid or plethoric habit. In all these conditions there is the absence of expulsive efforts, showing the complete inactivity of the rectum.

Espanet says that we will meet with many stubborn cases where its employment is necessary and where we will have to aid its action by intercurrent doses of *Nux vom.*, Lead, and Cantharis.

Prost-Lacuzon recommends it for the constipation of pregnant women, in cases where *Sepia* has failed.

Hirschell writes : *Opium* is indicated after a debilitating disease, or where there is a paralysis of the intestines in consequence of a protracted attack of diarrhœa, in subjects leading a sedentary life, and also in robust and healthy men.

Jahr, after describing the indications for *Nux vom.*, adds : *Opium* is of service for this same sensation of occlusion of the anus, but without the frequent desire of the former.

Hartmann recommends *Opium* for the constipation of children, when all the symptoms of *Nux vom.* exist, except the fruitless efforts at stool, and, also, when the latter remedy has failed.

It is sometimes necessary to give an intercurrent remedy and again return to *Opium*.

[Lilienthal gives: Constipation from inactivity of the rectum, but there is a want of sensibility in the abdominal condition and hardly any inconvenience is felt from the accumulation of fæces; constipation of good-humored, corpulent women and children].

Dr. Gross begins the treatment of persons suffering from chronic constipation, and accustomed for a long time to the use of purgatives, by substituting clysters of cold water and at the most, a drop of the tincture of Opium. When I have succeeded, he adds, in thus breaking off the habits of these patients, I administer the remedies to them with perfect success.

*Case 38.*—A bright little girl, 6½ years of age had been a sufferer from urticaria, which was aggravated whenever she ate a strawberry or even a strawberry pastil, but which I had cured with *Cancer fluviatilis*<sup>12</sup>. She was now seriously affected with a constipation characterized by the evacuation of large fæcal masses. On account of the distress and pain she delayed going to stool for as long a time as possible, but when it became absolutely necessary, it produced the most severe pains and caused her to cry aloud. Opium<sup>3</sup> removed the entire trouble.—*Dr. Rafinesque*.

[In Hempel and Arndt's *Materia Medica* we find three clinical cases in which Opium gave relief. These we have condensed as follows:

*Cases 39, 40, 41.*—A young girl, 12 years of age, subject to obstinate constipation, had every two or three days a hard, grayish stool, in small balls, like sheep-dung. There was also present, pressure over the eyes, anxiety about the heart, stitching pains in the chest and abdomen; she looked pale and sickly. Repeated small doses of Opium<sup>30</sup> cured her. Sulphur, Nux vom. and Silicea had failed.

The other patients, respectively a man of 60 years, and a woman of 56 years of age, suffered from obstinate and long continued constipation, which purgatives and injections hardly succeeded in relieving. The intervals between the stools would extend from several days to one or two weeks. In the former case Opium, 1st decimal trituration, and in the latter Opium<sup>200</sup> gave relief.

A very interesting case, too long for insertion here, of intestinal obstruction and fæcal tension, accompanied by the most severe symptoms, is given in the *Hahnemannian Monthly*, vol. x., p. 393, in which Opium<sup>30</sup> was successful.

For the constipation of infants with complete inactivity and large stools, Opium<sup>200</sup> has so far proven an efficient remedy in our hands.

*Case 42.*—While the present work was in course of preparation, a young man, a theological student, came to me complaining of a constipation of five days standing. The constipation was the only condition complained of, and was without desire for stool. During the first two days of the suppression of the stool there had been a sweetish taste in the mouth and some feeling of malaise. Opium<sup>4</sup>, three pills every two hours, produced a stool on the following day, and every day regularly from that time.]

## PHOSPHORUS.

**Stools:** Slender, long, dry, tough and hard, like a dog's; Voided with difficulty.

**During Stool:** Great efforts, although the stool is not hard; Cutting pains in the anus, with the hard stool.

**After Stool:** [Exceedingly painful cramps in the rectum.]

**Concomitants:** Pressure at the pit of the stomach after eating, with excessive flatulence ; Swelling of the abdomen and rumbling of gas, with sensation of weakness and emptiness in the abdomen.

**Generalities:** Intestinal inertia, says Espanet, can in certain cases, produce a constipated condition, especially when the voluntary muscles do not aid in the act of defecation. This constipation need not always be a contra-indication for Phosphorus ; it is not so at least if, at the same time, there is atony of the sexual organs. We would mention that Espanet includes in his article upon Phosphorus, not only the metalloid of this name, but also the Phosphoric acid.

[For the constipation due to a gastric neurosis, and when occurring in fevers and chronic diseases of the circulatory and intestinal tract, with prostration of the vital forces.]

## PHYTOLACCA.

Continued inclination to go to stool, but passes fetid flatus.

Pains shooting from the anus and lower part of the rectum along the perineum to the middle of the penis (in the middle of the night).

Ulceration of the rectum ; fissures and prolapse of the anus.

Bloody discharge, with heat in the rectum, tenesmus and hæmorrhoids.

For the constipation of aged persons, or those of very weak constitutional powers, with weak heart's action, intermittent pulse, and generally relaxed muscular frame.

## PODOPHYLLUM AND PODOPHYLLIN.

**Stools:** Hard, dry, pale or clayey, and voided with difficulty; Hard, crumble when evacuated, of a clay color, often streaked with green; Hard stool, coated with yellow, tenacious mucus; Thick, transparent mucus or mixed with blood.

**Before Stool:** Tenesmus.

**During Stool:** Tenesmus; Prolapse of the rectum in consequence of efforts at defecation, together with a mucous discharge.

**After Stool:** Prolapsus ani; Hæmorrhoids.

**Concomitants:** Fullness in the head; headache. Loss of appetite; impaired digestion. Various gastric and intestinal manifestations. Fetid flatus. Frequent urination. Pain and weakness in the back. Exhaustion from the natural, but too frequent stool.

General aggravation in the morning.

**Generalities:** Infantile constipation.

In old intermittent cases, or those due to a residence in or return from India (in these latter cases Cedron is, also, at times, useful).



Ruddock gives: Diarrhœa with generalized æterus or alternating with constipation. Constipation which often succeeds to an attack of diarrhœa in infants who are artificially nourished, when the stools are hard, crumbly, clayey.

Podophyllum is also serviceable in the constipation with irritation, and when occurring in persons of sedentary habit.

Rego writes: The primary effects of Podophyllum upon the intestine show a functional exaltation characterized by a diarrhœa variable in form, almost always accompanied with pain in the abdomen; and the secondary effects show a certain state of atony represented by constipation alternating nearly always with liquid dejections or again by hard, dry stools, expelled with difficulty.

“By its action on the liver,” says Dr. Hughes, “Podophyllum merits the name of the vegetable Mercury.” I do not believe this generalization is well founded. The bilious condition in which I have found it useful differs very much from that calling for Mercury. The attempt to force by the vis a tergo, in the case of jaundice due to obstruction, is sometimes justifiable. In these cases, of which an example is given by Dr. Hale, Podophyllum, in the dose of 3 to 10 grains of the 1st decimal trituration, is best adapted to produce this effect. On the same principle we can give it as advised by Dr. Ringer, in

doses of  $\frac{1}{6}$  to  $\frac{1}{30}$  of a grain in the constipation of infants.

[Hempel and Arndt write: The attenuations should be used. The practice of giving the crude resinoid, in light doses, for the sake of getting an immediate action of the bowels, is reprehensible.]

Podophyllum<sup>30</sup> has recently given me a most successful result in a case of infantile constipation with prolapsus of the rectum.

[Case 43.—An adult patient suffering with inactivity of the liver, complained of great mental depression, chilliness, cold perspiration, restless sleep, furred tongue (showing the imprints of the teeth), nausea, clayey, delayed stools; fullness, tenderness, and stitch-like pain in region of the liver, irregular action of heart and general prostration. A cure was wrought with a few doses of Podophyllum.—*Dr. A. K. Hills, in N. Y. Med. Times, vol. ix., p. 308.*]

## PLATINA.

**Stools:** Scanty, hard, as though burned; In small fragments; Viscous; In a single mass; Difficult, (clinging to the anus like clay).

**Before Stool:** Frequent and ineffectual desire; Prolonged efforts (stool in small fragments or is not hard); Violent pressure in the rectum; Violent shootings in the rectum compelling an outcry; Slight tenesmus.

**During Stool:** Cutting pains, burning and protrusion of the hæmorrhoids; Burning in the rectum.

**After Stool:** Sensation of great weakness in the

abdomen and chilliness; Slight tenesmus and tingling in the anus; Shooting pains in the anus with spasmodic contractions in the thighs; Violent itching in the anus; Chilliness about the head, breast and arms.

**Concomitants:** Catarrhal obstruction of the nose. Want of appetite. Eructations after eating. Sensation of cold and weakness in the abdomen, constrictions, pressure from above downward, oppression of the stomach, forcible efforts for the emission of gas. [Colic in the umbilical region, running into the back; pressing and bearing down in the abdomen; the pain is excessive, causing the patient to turn in all directions]. Flatulency. Tingling tenesmus and itching at the anus. Feeling of lassitude in the limbs; cold feet. Seminal emissions. Induration of the womb.

**Generalities:** For chronic constipation depending upon a neurosis with spasmodic constriction of the intestine. When due to lead poisoning or after travelling; in women as a class, or when the condition is severe enough to produce a displacement of the uterus, also in lying-in women; in sedentary subjects, and when there are co-existing menstrual troubles.

Hartmann says: It has often happened to me, in rebellious cases of constipation in which *Nux vom.* did not bring any relief, to give *Platina*<sup>6</sup> with ad-

vantage, especially when the evacuations took place only after violent efforts, often necessitated manual assistance, and were composed of small, black, hard masses.

## PLUMBUM.

**Stools:** Ball-shaped, hard as stone; Small, hard balls covered with a greasy pellicle, or they resemble sheep-dung; Large and hard, and covered with a glairy mucus; Dark colored.

**Before Stool:** Ineffectual urging, either with or without tenesmus; Complete atony of the rectum; Severe colic-like pains with constriction or spasm of the anus.

**During Stool:** Great effort; Violent colic pains.

**After Stool:** Colic, and at times diarrhœic discharges.

**Concomitants:** Great depression of spirits. Pale, emaciated. Anxiety and restlessness. Abdominal colics; Violent, cutting pains; abdomen hard and retracted, with drawing sensation from the abdomen to the back; anus feels as if contracted: prolapse of the anus. Nausea and vomiting. Loss of appetite, sweet taste in the mouth, violent thirst.

**Generalities:** Obstinate constipation. In pregnant women, persons of a paralytic diathesis, or when the constipation is due to paralysis of the intestines. Especially valuable when there is present dryness

of the excretion and a muscular atony. In many of the cases calling for the use of this drug there is an absence of the intestinal mucus and bile.

Often suitable in cases where *Platina* seems to be indicated but fails.

It is recommended, in alternation with *Opium*, for obstinate constipation in those who are otherwise in good health; the stools are very painful and hard. Also where there is general or partial paralysis with wasting away of the tissues.

The acetate, carbonate, and metallic lead seem equally effective in practice.

*Case 44.*—*Plumbum aceticum* is the best aperient that I have found; although a slow acting remedy, it cures promptly enough when administered in a very small dose. A woman who had suffered for a long time with cramps in the hypogastrium, and who had not had any stool for nineteen days (when she did have a stool it was as hard as stone and required the greatest efforts) took *Plumbum*<sup>12</sup> one-fourth of a grain. Eight hours later she had a copious evacuation, which was hard, it is true, but without effort. She had three more in twenty-four hours, the last two being natural; from this time the stools remained normal. I had given her before, a grain of the 6th; four days later, she had had an extremely copious stool, which was partially soft in consistency.—*Dr. Hartlaub.*

[In *Hempel and Arndt's Materia Medica* we find:

*Case 45.*—Constipation of several years standing. The stools consist of hard balls; there is little or no pain present. *Plumbum*, five powders, one night and morning, was given; several months later the cure was still permanent.

*Case 46.*—Even with a purgative, motions are hard and dark; numb extremities; knife frequently drops from his hand. Urine difficult, dribbling; high-colored and fetid. Sexual functions weak. Pulse quick, weak. *Plumbum carb.*<sup>1</sup>—*Raue's Record*, 1872; p. 151.

*Case 47.*—Mrs. R., age 50. Pale, emaciated; constipation in spite of cathartics. Fæces in small lumps; abdomen large; convolutions of intestines could be seen and felt through the abdominal parites. After eating, violent retching and vomiting of food or mucus. Violent, spasmodic, cutting, contractive pains, with great restlessness, anxiety, and cold sweat, would bring lumps as large as a fist on the left of the abdomen. Plumb.<sup>5</sup>

*Case 48.*—Mrs. E., 40 years of age, has suffered for a year from severe cardialgia. Constipation, once a week a hard, knobby stool. Severe colicky paroxysms with nausea and vomiting. Patient atrophic and anæmic. Taste sweet; abdomen compressed like a board. Paralytic weakness of extremities; hands and feet cold; lack of perspiration. Plumbum aceticum 30, 6, 3, produced a cure in a few days.—*Raue's Record*, 1870, p. 215.]

## PSORINUM.

If Psorinum was formerly in great vogue among the partisan physicians both of the Hahnemannian psora and isopathy, it is to-day almost entirely rejected. Behold in what terms Griesselich† condemns it, even thirty years ago: “With the exception of Psorinum, not a single isopathic substance has been examined in its pure effects. Even the attempt with it is without any affinity and without any utility for practice; Trinks, Noack and Muller were right not to insert it in their *Materia Medica*.”

This is not the place to discuss the questions of psora and isopathy. We will not deny that, personally, we have very little confidence in Psorinum, the

† Manuel pour servir à l'étude critique de la med. hom. Dr. Griesselich, trad par Schlesinger.—*Rahier*, Paris, 1849, pp. 101 et 102.

uniformity of which even, as a substance, does not appear to us to present any points for discussion. There has been, and there is still, in our school, physicians, well informed and of whose honesty there is not a shadow of a doubt, who are ready to prescribe Psorinum conscientiously.

The clinical collections of Rueckert mentions the employment of this substance in the treatment of hernia, chancres, hydrocele, urticaria, itch, eczema, and various affections of the hair. In his brief indications for the treatment of constipation, Rueckert writes among others the following lines: "In chronic constipation, especially Lachesis, Lycopodium, Natrum mur., Veratrum; for intestinal torpor, Opium and Plumbum; if it is especially due to the rectum, Opium and Psorinum."

Beauvais notes the employment of Psorinum (or Psoricum) in a large number of clinical observations. They are constipation, chronic exanthemata and troubles with the intestinal tract, chronic hepatitis, hæmorrhoids and constitutional diseases of various degrees and forms.

*Ceas 49.*—A young child, 3 years of age, had already suffered since birth with attacks of constipation which would last three or four days and were due to inactivity of the rectum; the stool on the third or fourth would be very painful, and accompanied with severe pains, which induced the patient to withhold the effort as much as possible. In Oct., 1833, I gave Sulphur<sup>30</sup>; the stool was for a single time without pain and then the constipation returned. I gave Alumina<sup>30</sup> which had an effect for some time. March 8, 1834, the constipation returned in the same

degree ; this time the Alumina gave good effects, but only till the first part of April, when the complaints were renewed. The remedies given had no effect. I then gave Psorinum<sup>80</sup> and there were fourteen days of quiet ; finally Opinm<sup>6</sup> two drops in water, a teaspoonful every two hours ; but I was compelled to return to Psorinum. It removed the trouble, for a year has elapsed since then and the stool is constantly in good order.—*Dr. Allher.*

## PULSATILLA.

**Stools:** Large and hard ; Difficult stool although soft ; Alternation of hard and soft stools.

**Before Stool:** Ineffectual desire (during the menses) ; Inactivity of the intestines.

**During Stool:** Difficult expulsion with painful urging and backache.

**Concomitants:** Blonde persons with lymphatic temperament and a mild and peaceful disposition ; or mild, cold, and phlegmatic ; or taciturn or morose with aversion to talking. Bilious and bitter taste in the mouth ; excess of mucus in the mouth ; burning in the pharynx. Nausea and sour eructations. Drawing tension in the abdomen ; pinching in the abdomen ; collection of gas. During the menses, pressive pain from above downward into the pelvis and sacrum, with tendency of the lower limbs to become numb, while seated. Livid countenance, debility and chilliness with great fatigue. Disposition to catarrhs of the mucous membranes. Aggravations from the use of fatty aliments, rancid butter



cakes, or after intermittent fever suppressed by Quinine.

**Generalities:** Espanet says: Pulsatilla occupies a secondary but excellent rank in irritations of the digestive tract with constipation, the result of excess in drinking, and the abuse of the pleasures of the senses.

Suitable to the same conditions as Nux vom., but in those who are of a mild disposition; in women, when they complain of chilliness.

In chronic constipation, Pulsatilla acts in a certain sense analogous to Sepia, especially in rheumatic subjects.

Paul Landry advises Pulsatilla for those women whose menstrual functions become irregular on account of constipation (Sepia in analogous circumstances).

Kallenbach has only obtained permanent effects from this drug in the lower dilutions.

## SEPIA.

**Stools:** Hard, knotty, insufficient, scanty, like sheep-dung; Difficult, covered with mucus; Retarded, with discharge of blood.

**Before Stool:** Frequent desire, but without ejecting anything, or there is only an emission of wind and mucus.

**During Stool:** Pain in the rectum extending to the perineum and vagina; Shooting and tearing in the rectum and at the anus; Prolapse of the anus; Sense of weight at the anus; Terrible straining to pass stool covered with mucus; Bloody discharge.

**After Stool:** Sensation of weight at the anus; Burning in the rectum and anus; Hæmorrhoids.

**Concomitants:** Headache. Sensation of cold in the stomach. Pyrosis. Nausea, often coming in paroxysms. Tingling in the rectum, with itching at the anus; oozing of moisture from the anus. Hæmorrhoids. External chilliness. Emaciation. Uterine affections and leucorrhœa. Herpetic eruptions.

**Generalities:** In pregnant women, and in children where manual assistance has to be rendered, in consequence of the excessive straining. When the constipation is associated with dyspepsia and chronic affections of the stomach.

Jahr says that *Sepia* is suitable for cases of chronic or obstinate constipation, especially after the unsuccessful use of Sulphur and *Nux vom.*, especially in females or persons subject to rheumatism.

[Hempel and Arndt write: Persons of light complexion, soft muscular tissue; of a depressed, sad, anxious state of mind, easily excited and worried; the symptoms are aggravated in the middle of the forenoon, and when sitting quiet, and are relieved upon moving about.]

*Case 50.*—A middle-aged woman suffered from hæmorrhoids, herpes, cramps and constipation. No stool took place except under the influence of a purgative. She had been without a faecal movement for several days, and the obstruction had caused the abdomen to swell, and had produced still more dangerous symptoms, such as congestion of the head, etc. The only thing to do was to free the bowels, and for this purpose homœopathy alone furnished the means. But the difficulty was to avoid a commingling of the remedies and the purgatives which she was unable to pass. In similar cases I have always substituted enemata of cold water in the place of the purgatives, and at the most a drop of the tincture of Opium. When I have thus broken up the habit, I am able to administer the remedies with greater success. But here all my efforts, directed against the torpidity of the intestinal canal, were failures. The best indicated remedies such as Nux, Petroleum, Alumina, Sepia, and even Plumbum did not produce any result. The constipation remained unchecked, and the symptoms became so threatening that I was about to counsel the administration of purgatives during the intervals. The enemata of soap likewise gave no relief, and I determined to administer at the same time Sepia in repeated doses. For a month the patient took every eight days a dose (30th), then every fifteen days, in all six doses. A stool from time to time gave great relief.—*Dr. Gross.*

## SILICEA.

**Stools:** Large, hard masses, light colored ; Difficult expulsion, even of the soft stool.

**Before Stool:** [Fæces remain a long time in the rectum as if it had lost the power of expulsion with sensation of soreness] ; Obstruction of the bowels from inactivity of the rectum, with pain and ineffectual desire for stool.

**During Stool:** Prolonged efforts which render the muscles of the abdomen sore, but when partly ex-

pelled the fæcal matter returns into the rectum; [Protruding hæmorrhoids which become incarcerated.]

**Concomitants:** Gastralgia accompanied sometimes with pyrosis, sometimes with hiccough, or nausea and glairy vomiting; there is heat, weight, sensitiveness, and a feeling of constriction; flatulency, eructations, somnolency, languor, coldness of the extremities, loss of appetite, slow and painful digestion, often a canine hunger which cannot be satisfied [Stitches and shooting pains in the anus; Constipation before and after the menses.]

**Generalities:** [In sanguine lymphatic temperaments, and when associated with chronic, scrofulous, suppurative diseases. For the constipation of badly-nourished children, with pale, earthy face; copious perspiration about the head; large and hard abdomen; aversion to warm food. Loss of expulsive force with a large but soft stool is a characteristic condition calling for this remedy].

*Case 51.*—Mrs. J., the mother of four children, and apparently healthy, has suffered for several months with constipation. Close attention to a proper diet had not relieved her. There was frequent urging to stool, without ability to effect an evacuation; the stools were large and hard, and after having partially expelled, would recede back into the rectum. Prescribed *Silicea*<sup>50</sup>. Two hours later she had a free evacuation and has remained free from the difficulty since then.—*Dr. I. D. Johnson* in *Hempel and Arndt's Mat. Med.*

*Case 52.*—Mrs. H., aged 26 years and mother of three children, states, that she has suffered from constipation since the birth of

her youngest child, three months ago. She had taken the usual cathartic medicines. The stools were hard and dry, were partially expelled with much straining and then receded back into the rectum. *Silicea*<sup>80</sup>, one dose each night and morning. Cured with four doses.—*Ibid.*

## STANNUM.

**Stools:** Chestnut-shaped stools; [Hard, dry, knotty or insufficient; In some cases they may be scanty and of a greenish color, in other cases they may be accompanied by vermiform shreds of mucus, or followed by expulsion of mucus;] fetid fæcal stools.

**Before Stool:** Rectum inactive.

**During Stool:** Urging even with soft stool.

[First part of the discharge being of a natural consistency, afterward it became papescent, and lastly thin; it is accompanied by a shuddering sensation through the body from above downward, and by a drawing from the small of the back through the thighs. Symptom experienced by a person habitually costive.]

**After Stool:** Desire still persists.

**Concomitants:** Heat in the head. Sickly face. Malaise. Colic; fullness and swelling of the abdomen.

*Case 53.*—A young ecclesiastic was subject to a constipation which appeared on every Monday or on the days after a fete, but only in winter, while for the rest of the week the stools were

regular. This constipation gave rise to a sensation of fullness in the lower part of the abdomen with swelling, malaise, great heat in the head, ameliorated in the open air, but returning when in the house, with ill-humor and sadness. At noon he felt hungry, but no appetite in the evening. I gave *Stannum*<sup>30</sup> on Sunday evening before going to bed. Two doses were sufficient for a cure.

## STAPHISAGRIA.

*M. Teste* gives us the following under this drug: Stools frequent enough, but dry and insufficient; frequent desire for stool, with constipation as from inertia of the rectum; slight diarrhœa alternating with constipation; excoriating pain in the anus.

*Boenninghausen* and *Jahr* place this drug among the chief remedies for constipation.

*Hering* recommends it when *Mercurius* has been insufficient for constipation accompanied with bad taste in the mouth, pain in the gums, irregular appetite.

## SULPHUR.

**Stools:** Hard, knotty, dark and dry; Insufficient; Chestnut or olive-shaped; Alternation of constipation and diarrhœa.

**Before Stool:** Frequent desire with ineffectual urging; The effort at stool is so painful that the patient dreads to attempt it; Prolapse of the rectum.

**During Stool:** Straining and bloody discharge.

**After Stool:** Prolapse of the rectum ; Lancinating pains from the anus upward ; Stinging, sore, burning, itching, pulsating pains in the anus.

**Concomitants:** Inability to think ; Frequent hot flashes and burning on the top of the head and the soles of the feet ; Craving for food, or anorexia, with aversion to meat and desire for sweets and alcoholic liquors, with the well-known 11 A. M. aggravation. Bloated abdomen, general malaise, nausea and eructations, incarcerated flatulence ; pains throughout the abdomen, with sensitiveness to the touch ; various dyspeptic phenomena. Many forms of skin disease.

**Generalities:** Serviceable in the beginning of many cases of chronic constipation, especially when accompanied with hæmorrhoids. Frequently indicated after *Nux vom.* or to complete a cure, in hypochondriacal or hæmorrhoidal subjects. According to Hirschell Sulphur acts like *Nux vom.*, in the constipations which are even more obstinate, when, for example, the constipation depends upon the obstruction or swelling of some organ, especially the liver, together with the engorgement of the portal circulation.

It is also of service in the constipation of pregnant women and the new-born.

Noack recommends *Calcarea* and *Sulphur* in alternation for chronic hæmorrhoidal constipation.

As an intercurrent remedy Sulphur acts somewhat similar to Opium, but it has a much greater value on account of the extent of its sphere of action and the numerous morbid forms to which it is adapted.

The following observation is the authority for the "accompanying vulvar pain" of Rueckert.

*Case 54.*—A woman 24 years of age, confined with her first child, now five weeks old, suffered from constipation even before her marriage. Four days before her confinement she had a stool, and a second one fourteen days after confinement; since then she has a stool about every five days. Since her delivery she has had a pain in the rima pudenda which continues to increase, especially when at stool; after each evacuation she has to rest in bed an entire day on account of the pains around the anus. The perineum was torn nearly through to the anus, but is at present almost completely cicatrized. Her general condition is good. Sulphur<sup>2</sup> was given twice a day. At the end of four days, the evacuations were less painful, while a few days later the cure was complete.—*Dr. Kasemann.*

*Case 55.*—An hysterical woman was attacked with a disease of the liver, and after the cessation of the acute stage, the stools were very irregular. Having failed in the employment of several remedies, among others Sulphur in different potencies, and even in the tincture given several times a day, I gave Sulphur<sup>2</sup>. After two doses, and on the second day, a movement of the bowels took place, which was repeated daily from that time on, while the trouble in the hypogastric region improved in a marked manner.—*Dr. Schmid.*

This observation is interesting to us, not only on account of the choice of the remedy, but especially for the choice of the dilution. We are led to believe, both from this observation and many others, that we are wrong in changing too easily our remedies. When a remedy is truly indicated, that is to say



completely homœopathic, if the first preparation administered does not succeed, it would often be better to try a lower or a higher attenuation, according to the nature of the remedy, the idiosyncrasy of the patient, or a thousand circumstances, which unfortunately in the actual state of our science can not always be exposed in a precise and definite manner.

[*Case 56.*—The first part of the stool was in small, round lumps, of a very dark green, almost black, color, the remaining part of the stool softer and larger. The stool sometimes slips back when about to escape (also *Silicea*). With the stool a bloody discharge, which is sometimes bright, at other times like jelly, Sulphur cm.—*Raue's Record*, 1872, p. 151.]

## TABACUM.

We have already spoken of tobacco in relation to the preventive, hygienic or accessory treatment of constipation. The use of a pipe or a cigar very often constitutes in many persons a means for preventing constipation.

Dr. De Moor has published a pathogenesis of this medicine in which we find the following: Desire for stool without any evacuation. After frequent but ineffectual attempts at stool, there occurs an evacuation of hard matter several hours after the regular time.

Dr. Ozanam in a later work gives: Habitual

constipation ; paralysis of the rectum ; spasm of the anal sphincter.

We translate, in a condensed form, several interesting passages from the supplement to Rueckert: Dr. Minnichreiter recommends tobacco and especially nicotine, for constipation. In a case of chronic constipation with marked and painful tympanitis, after a failure by heroic treatment, the patient had recourse to the following expedient: he smoked a large pipe of tobacco, and then placed the remaining secretion in a cup of black coffee which he finally drank; the patient was cured immediately and for a long time. Another patient, non-smoker, who suffered from chronic constipation, having smoked a mild cigar, was taken with diarrhœa, but was cured by Ipecac and Nux vomica.

[Tympanitic bloating of the abdomen ; dyspnœa].

## THUJA.

**Stools:** Hard balls; Large, hard, coated with blood; Hard, thick and knotty; Hard, followed by soft stool; Retarded and insufficient.

**Before Stool:** Frequent urging, without colic; Pressing and ineffectual desire, with erections. (Ignatia?)

**During Stool:** Only a small quantity of hard stool being passed each time, with pain in the anus as if

it would fly to pieces. Great trouble in passing the stool, as if the rectum had been constricted (hard stool followed by a soft one); Violent pains in the rectum compel a cessation of the effort at stool, especially when hæmorrhoids are present.

**After Stool:** Repeated urging, without accomplishing anything.

**Concomitants:** Fever. Smarting of the anus, between the intervals of the stools. [Offensive perspiration at the anus and in the perineum. Hæmorrhoids and fissures of the anus. General aggravation of the pains in the anus on motion.

**Generalities:** Obstinate constipation, from inactivity or intussusception. Constipation which seems to be the result of organic reaction.]

## VERATRUM ALBUM.

**Stools:** Large and hard, or first part large, latter part smaller; Round, black balls.

**Before Stool:** No desire; Desire for stool in the epigastrium; Pressure toward the anus with blind hæmorrhoids; Tenesmus.

**During Stool:** Great straining; Heat in the anus; Painless discharge of masses of blood in clots, with sinking feeling.

**After Stool:** Weakness or prostration.

**Concomitants:** Heat and pains in the head.

Vomiting of food (in dyspeptics). Colic pains. Abdominal engorgement. [General depression of vitality, predominant coldness of the body; pallor and cold sweat on the forehead, or over the whole body, on slight emotion or exertion.] Increased flow of urine.

**Generalities:** Constipation on account of the inaction of the rectum and want of peristaltic movement in the other intestines. [Digestion appears to be well performed, and still defecation is nearly impossible, on account of inertia of the rectum]. Obstruction of the bowels on account of the hardness and volume of the fæcal matter. In obstinate constipation alone, in subjects who are always hungry but easily satiated, in hypochondriacs and maniacs.

Ruddock recommends it for a paralytic state of the rectum with dryness of the intestines.

Hartmann says: In the constipation of infants, when *Lycopodium* has ameliorated, but some traces of the disease still remains, *Veratrum alb.*<sup>19</sup> may succeed. It is also of service, like *Platina* and *Lycopodium*, when the peristaltic movements of the intestines are re-established, but the rectum still remains in a state of inactivity bordering upon paralysis.

Jahr recommends the drug when *Nux vom.*, *Opium*, and *Bryonia* have not been able to remove an accidental but obstinate constipation.

Dr. Bryce (Edinburgh) does not know of a remedy whose action is as prompt in causing stool; no matter how obstinate the constipation may be, if we give the remedy in the evening, it is rare that we do not have a free movement of the bowels in the morning.

We give herewith an observation from the *Clinique Homœop.* of Beauvais, which is interesting for various reasons; independent of the efficacy of *Veratrum alb.*, we find in it a remarkable example of medicinal aggravation or rather, positive effects from infinitesimal doses.

*Case 57.*—I had treated for some length of time a nursing infant who was suffering from a very obstinate constipation, which had been, however, somewhat relieved by the use of Alumina and Sulphur. Lately the child had been without any medication, and I thought it a suitable time to give him in the evening five drops of *Veratrum*. The infant was attacked with vomiting in the night, and from that time the stool was more regular for several days. At this time I again repeated the dose when the result was the same. Later I again gave, for the third time, the same dose of *Veratrum* in the evening. He was again seized in the night with a severe diarrhœa, which ceased, however, on the next morning, but after this the stools were regular for a long time. It seems clear to me that the remedy cured him, by producing its primitive effects.—*Dr. Elwert.*

*Case 58.*—A gentleman suffered for a long time in consequence of the presence of an eruptive disease which covered a great part of the surface of the body. He complained at the same time of symptoms of dyspepsia, such as, eructations which were bitter and sour, fullness of the stomach and bowels after eating, with pain in the region of the liver and marked constipation. I prescribed *Veratrum* for the cutaneous trouble, and it was removed; at the same time the gastric symptoms improved and the constipation disappeared; two months later, without taking a purgative (which he had formerly taken at least once a week).

he assured me that he was in the enjoyment of a state of health which he had not known for many years.—*Dr. Broackes.*

## ZINCUM. .

**Stools:** Dry, hard, insufficient, difficult; Dry, brittle, granulous; Large, formed stool.

**Before Stool:** Frequent and ineffectual desire for stool.

**During Stool:** Prolonged desire, which is only satisfied after great efforts, although the materials are soft; Emission of prostatic liquid; Slight discharge of blood (with hard stool); Pressure and clawing in the anus; Painful evacuation (dry, sandy stools).

**After Stool:** Continued desire; Violent bearing down in the abdomen, relieved by passage of flatus up or down.

**Concomitants:** Coated tongue or sometimes red, with projecting papillæ. Dry mouth; sweetish taste in the mouth; degeneration of the gums, with aphthæ. Red face during the act of digestion. Sour eructations; burning in the stomach; vomiting of mucus and bile; chronic vomiting of food with but little effort; flatulent colic, with emissions of hot, fetid flatulence. Intercurrent fever; accelerated pulse; skin dry. Difficult respiration. Rheumatic pains in the back and extremities.

**Generalities:** Hirschell calls attention to Zincum

when the constipation is the effect of a spasmodic action of the intestines.

Zincum has been recommended for hypochondriasis and chronic gastritis, and in the beginning and for the results of constipation.

Hartmann recommends it for the constipation of the new-born, while Jahr places it in the second rank for constipation in general.

Espanet says: Zincum is serviceable for certain venous congestions of the abdomen, with varices, constipation, and symptoms of gastritis or chronic enteritis, hypochondria, nervousness and extreme mental susceptibility.

Boenninghausen writes: Wine, Nux vom. (and Chamomilla) increase the pains produced by Zincum, especially the night restlessness and constipation, and provoke their appearance.

## OTHER REMEDIES.

We do not claim to have studied here all the homœopathic remedies suitable for constipation. We know that in each one of the remedies of which we have sketched the special indications, many omissions, more or less important, will be found. Forced to sail between the two rocks which rise up fatally before a work like ours—barren dryness or tiresome prolixity—we have nevertheless pursued one aim.

that of making a useful and practical work. Thus we have given our principal attention to those remedies which are in every day use.

We will, however, mention a few more medicaments or therapeutic agents.

**Paraffine.**—This substance, according to Littré and Robin, is a carburet of hydrogen ( $C^{48}H^{50}$ ), white, crystalline, hard, of a fatty nature, and is obtained from the products of distillation of the vegetable tar.

Wahle places Paraffine above Nux vom. in the treatment of constipation.

**Aconite.**—This medicine, according to the views of all the authors, corresponds to the constipation which is accompanied with fever. The constipation which is associated with enteritis, says Hahnemann, does not contraindicate the use of Aconite, nor on the other hand is it an indication for it, since the constipation itself disappears with the inflammatory symptoms, without the necessity of using injections.

[Hempel and Arndt: Among the symptoms of Aconite we find “hard stool passed with hard pressing” and as a curative effect “retention of stool in acute affections.”

Aconite is of especial value, when constipation occurs as a symptom of some catarrhal or rheumatic fever, or upon some liver difficulty to which this drug is homœopathic.

*Case 59.*—We were once called to a case, where a



had a common rheumatic fever, had taken a whole lot of cathartics and drastics for the purpose of procuring stool. These drugs had remained inoperative. We found the bowels enormously distended and utterly torpid; not the remotest disposition to have a discharge. A single dose of Aconite excited peristaltic motion and procured complete relief, besides inducing copious perspiration and effecting a perfect cure of the fever.

*Case 60.*—Under the old-school treatment of acute rheumatic fever, the bowels are very apt to remain torpid. We once cured a constipation of this kind, where the patient, a lady of seventy-five years, had not had a passage from the bowels for twenty-one days. A single drop of Aconite, 15th potency, was sufficient to move them; she discharged a hard, dry substance, which looked like burnt peat. The bowels remained regular after this one evacuation. The character of such a black looking discharge corresponds with the following Aconite symptom: "Discharge of black, fetid, faecal matter, which may be either soft, diarrhœic, or hard and burnt like coal."

In some forms of spinal irritation, when that portion of the column which supplies nerves to the liver, is the seat of the trouble, the bowels are very torpid, and what passes the bowels looks dark and burnt like coal. Aconite is the remedy for this sort of torpor.]

**Leptandra Virginica.**—This remedy, although corresponding rather to diarrhœa than constipation, exercises a specific action upon the liver, and may be useful in certain forms of constipation, still ill-defined, which depend upon hepatic disorders.

**China.**—Prominently indicated by Jahr in his Repertory for the constipation resulting from inactivity of the intestines.

[In Hempel and Arndt we find: The secondary effect (organic reaction) of small doses of China

seems to be to bind the bowels; this costiveness is accompanied with vascular erethism, flushed face, fullness in the head, headache, palpitation of the heart. The *Chininum sulphuricum* gives the same effects.

Raue gives: Large accumulation of fæces in the intestines, with dizziness and heat in the head; difficult stool even when soft.]

**Cantharis.** According to Bœnninghausen and Jahr, this remedy merits consideration among those indicated in general for constipation.

**Kreosotum.**—This is placed, by Jahr, in the same line as *Cantharis*, that is to say in the second rank. [Stool hard, dark and dry (much like that of *Bryonia*), and expelled only after much pressing; stitches in the rectum, extending toward the left groin. Children struggle and scream during the act of defecation and seem as if they would go into fits.]

**Secale.**—Recommended by Hirschell in the paralytic form of constipation (after *Opium*, and in the same rank as *Phosphorous* and *Rhus*).

**Jatropha curcas.**—*Apis* and *Cepa* occupy together the third rank in Jahr's Repertory. Roth (*Gazette Homœop.*) emphasizes the condition of constipation in the pathogenesis of *Jatropha*.

[*Apis*: Large, hard, difficult stools; stinging pains and sensation in abdomen as from something

tight, which would break if much effort is used.]

**Arnica.**—Suitable for constipation in consequence of contusions or from cerebral origin.

[Dr. Chargé has seen an accidental constipation, due to a violent blow upon the abdomen, disappear promptly under the use of Arnica.—*Le Traumatisme*, par Bernard, p. 9.]

*Case 61.*—A woman subject to very obstinate attacks of constipation, often felt a peculiar benumbing sensation in the intestines, which she attributed to the presence of hardened fæcal matter. She was relieved by Arnica.—*Ibid*, p. 10.]

**Gelsemium sempervirens.**—A paralyzing remedy, according to Imbert-Gourbeyre, and hence of assistance in paralysis, and may merit one day, when it will be better known, an important place in the treatment of constipation.

We call attention for the present to the following symptom by Hale: Tardy stools, leaving a sensation as if there still remained something behind, with a feeling of abdominal fullness.

**Menyanthes trifoliata.**—Rucco says: Constipation yields most often to the action of the globules of Menyanthes, Bryonia, Nux vom., Veratrum alb., and Staphysagria; remedies which we administer successively, the one after the previous one has terminated its course of action.

**Aurum muriaticum**, according to Dr. Kallenbach, of Berlin, is the most suitable remedy for habitual

constipation due to atony of the intestinal canal. He gives it also for hæmorrhoidal constipation.

[Lilienthal: Hard, knotty and large stools; costiveness worse during the menses; piles with rectal catarrh.]

**Prunus padus**, according to the same author, is analogous to *Aurum muriaticum*.

**Arsenicum**.—We must not forget to mention this remedy, since, as Kallenbach says, it is the principal remedy against enteritis and typhus abdominalis, and exerts its influence upon the mucous membrane of the intestinal canal where there is a tendency to destruction of tissue due to local irritation, and can cure even in the beginning of the destruction. Arsenic is indicated when the symptoms of irritation of the mucous membrane of the stomach and small intestines are very marked and announces the transition to chronic inflammation.

[When there is torpor of the liver; the fæces have a dark, brown, greenish or blackish appearance. The abdomen may feel hard and distended, with a feeling of warmth, aching and sore pain in the bowels, exceedingly dry skin, with entire absence of all cutaneous exhalation, scanty, deep-colored and offensively smelling urine, dullness about the head, sallow complexion, feeling of languor and hypochondriac depression of mind.]

**Ammonium carb. and muriat.**—These may be use-

ful under certain circumstances ; the latter in cases of induration of the mucous membrane leading to intestinal narrowing (Kallenbach).

[*Ammonium mur.*: Hard stools, crumbling to pieces when evacuated, requiring great efforts to expel them, followed by soft stools; the fæces covered with a tough, glairy mucus, and are accompanied by a discharge of a quantity of mucus.]

We would also mention *Colocynth*, *Rhus*, *Stramonium*, *Helleborus* (in the forms associated with the rheumatic diathesis), *Hyoscyamus*, *Digitalis*; *Verbascum* especially mentioned in the Manual of Bœnninghausen, for constipation on account of the hardness of the excrements.

**Calcareæ aceticæ.**—Dr. Willmar Schwabe recalls the fact that Hahnemann recommends this remedy as a specific in constipation ; it is especially adapted for constipation with concomitant intestinal catarrh, when the abdomen is bloated and painful, the pains being relieved by the emission of gas and fæces, also when diarrhœa succeeds the constipation.

**Cod-Liver Oil.**—According to Dr. Osberghaus this often cures obstinate constipation in young people and in the aged.

Hale gives: Constipation with burning of the hands and feet, sometimes cold feet.

**Raphanus sativus**, according to Dr. Nusser, has the characteristic symptom: "No emission of gas

upward or downward," and this author recommends rather strong doses in the case of constipation, when the other symptoms indicate it, such as bloating of the abdomen, absence of gases, prompt satiety when eating, and when the result of a sedentary life.

**Aesculus glabra.**—External hæmorrhoidal tumors of a dark purple color, with constipation and vertigo; weakness of the sacrum and the lower limbs. Hard, knotty stools.

**Asclepias Syriaca.**—Constipation is cured by its use in doses of ten to thirty drops of the tincture, three times a day. Constipation, pain in right side, lower extremities, and loss of appetite.

**Carbon bisulphide.**—This is said to cure constipation with discharges of gas of an acid odor.

Roth already notes in the *Gazette Homœop.*, of Paris, the following symptom in connection with this remedy: Difficult stool, soft and not very abundant as if from inactivity of the rectum.

Jousset, in *l'Art Medical* (vol. iv., p. 89), mentions the hard stools, rounded or nut-shaped, black, presenting sometimes the odor of the drug.

**Bromide of Potash.**—Obstinate constipation has been often cured, without expecting it, whilst the remedy was given in a continuous manner for other disorders. I am not able, adds Hale, to point out the mode of curative action in similar cases, but the fact is none the less worthy of mention.

**Calabar.**—This drug, according to an old-school physician, has cured an obstinate constipation.

**Gallic acid.**—This remedy ought to be consulted in constipation with persistent pyrosis.

**Guaræa.**—Mentioned by Hale for chronic constipation, [and for constipation occurring during dentition].

**Ptelea trifoliata.**—Hale mentions the following symptom as verified by clinical experience: “Chronic gastritis; continued feeling of erosion, heat and burning in the stomach with vomiting of the ingesta, constipation and fever in the afternoon.”

**[Agaricus mus.]**—When occurring in drunkards or those suffering from enlargement of the liver, due to abuse of alcoholic stimulants. Alternation of constipation and diarrhœa. Fæces are hard and dry, their passage through the rectum causes a painful soreness of the lining membrane and invites a spasmodic retraction of the anus.

**Anacardium.**—Frequent tenesmus for many days, without being able to pass anything; great, urgent desire for stool, but on sitting down, the desire immediately passes off without an evacuation; the rectum seems to be powerless, with a sensation as if plugged up; frequent, profuse bleeding at the anus when at stool. Painful twisting and turning in the intestines across the abdomen.

**Asafœtida.**—Obstinate constipation, with abdomi-

nal and hæmorrhoidal cramps; constant, ineffectual urging to stool, with violent pressing toward the rectum, and discharge of offensive flatus; only slime passes, no fæces.

**Ferrum acet.**—Chronic constipation, with ineffectual urging, with anæmic symptoms; flushed head and face with cold hands and feet; straining for stool all day; sick at the stomach; disagreeable taste, worse drinking cold water.

**Geranium mac.**—Dr. E. C. Beckwith has found this remedy useful for such cases particularly, as occur in weak, debilitated patients during the attack of other diseases; and to all that class of cases that are suffering from habitual constipation arising from weakness of the parts, rather than organic disease.

**Magnesia carb.**—Frequent, ineffectual urging to stool, with small stool, or only discharge of flatulence; stitches in the anus and rectum, with fruitless desire for stool.

**Natrum carb.**—Insufficient stool, with tenesmus, followed by burning in the eyes and urethra, with great sexual excitement.

**Natrum sulph.**—Hard, knotty stools streaked with blood, preceded and accompanied by smarting at the anus; difficult expulsion of soft stool; emission of foetid flatus in large quantities.

**Prunus spin.**—Hard stool, intermittent stool, look-



ing like the excrement of dogs, in small lumps, with stitches in the rectum, extorting cries.

**Ratanhia.**—Urging sensation in the small of the back, as if there would be stool; hard stool with straining; sudden stitches in the anus; fissures of the anus.

**Ruta.**—Scanty, hard stool; frequent urging to stool, with protrusion of the rectum, also during stool; the rectum protrudes when stooping ever so little, and especially when squatting; a considerable quantity of flatulence is emitted whenever the urging takes place.

**Sabadilla.**—Violent urging to stool, with noise like the croaking of frogs; necessity of sitting a long while, then passes an immense quantity of flatulence, which is followed by an enormous evacuation, and after that, a burning pain in the abdomen.

**Sarsaparilla.**—Obstinate constipation, with violent urging to urinate; urging to stool, with contractions of the intestines, and excessive pressure from above downward, as if the bowels would be pressed out; during stool violent tearing and cutting in the rectum; afterward a repetition of the same symptoms.

**Selenium.**—Stools so hard and impacted that it must be removed by mechanical aid; the fæces contain threads of fecal matter, like hair.

**Sulphuric acid.**—Hard stool, consisting of small,

black lumps mixed with blood, and with such violent pricking in the anus that she has to rise on account of the pain; climacteric age; constant flushes of heat; tremulous sensation in the whole body without trembling.]

## ELECTRICITY.

This is also a valuable agent, and can be utilized with benefit in the treatment of constipation.

Electro-magnetism, says Dr. Marcy, ought not only to second the action of remedies, but may take their place in the treatment of habitual and obstinate constipation.

*Case 62.*—A man 30 years of age, small, nervous temperament, corpulent, hypochondriac, suffered with a chronic constipation, vertigo, cerebral congestion, cephalalgia, and an exanthematous eruption upon the skin. Old-school treatment and Carlsbad waters had proven unavailing. There was a stool only every eight days. Electricity applied to the abdomen by means of the Leyden cell, a quarter of an hour or more, every day, produced a complete cure in a few weeks.—*Dr. Altschul.*

We have thought it best to translate this observation both on account of the simplicity of the method of application and the evident result obtained.

We know that electro-therapie has made great progress since that time, principally in the direction of the apparatus and the *modus faciendi*. Among our homœopathic confreres who have contributed to the perfection of the application, Drs. Perry and Pitet, of Paris, deserve special mention. We would

also mention Dr. Frestier, of Lyon, who has expressed some ingenious ideas, but which are open to discussion.

In America, Drs. Tooker, of Chicago, Murphy, of New Orleans, and especially John Butler, of New York, conclude that electricity enters into the great homœopathic law, through the affinity of indicated physiological effects. Experience has taught at the same time that in order to obtain a curative effect, it is necessary to weaken, dilute in a certain sense, the dose of the agent employed.

We have a natural transition—from electricity to mineral waters of which we shall speak later—in the work published by M. L'Herbier, under the title “Medical Static Electricity and Its Special Application to the Mineral Waters of Vals and Neyrac, According to the Method of Prof. C. Bockensteiner.” Among the affections happily combatted by this electro-mineral medication, the author ranges in the first rank faecal stasis or chronic musculo-intestinal paralysis, preceding immediately the inflammatory or nervous irritation of the transverse colon and producing an obstinate constipation. Many examples are given in point, but we will select the shortest.

*Case 63.*—C. J., a silk-handkerchief printer, aged 51 years, bilious-sanguine temperament, but with a constitution already undermined by the abuse of both work and pleasures, had a constipation of nine years duration; it disappeared after the third electric bath.—*Dr. L'Herbier.*

## MINERAL WATERS.

Among the mineral waters which have been studied and administered homœopathically according to the comparison of the known physiological effects with tried similar therapeutic effects, we will mention three, those of Teplitz, Lippspringe and Carlsbad.

The following pathogenetic symptoms are attributed to the Teplitz waters by Dr. Perutz: Constipation with pain in the kidneys and a sensation of weight in the extremities. Frequent desire for stool, but without result. Constipation for several days, accompanied with nausea. Hard stool with an escape of bright, red blood.

Dr. Bolle notes the following physiological effects as belonging to the mineral waters of Lippspringe: Constipation. Burning at the anus. No strength to force an evacuation. Vain desire for stool with pains as though diarrhœa was present. The water is recommended by Dr. Bolle for old and stubborn cases of constipation, especially in hypochondriac or plethoric subjects.

Carlsbad has been the subject of a very interesting monograph by Dr. Porges. We give a few of the reliable symptoms obtained: Tension and shootings in the anus, extending toward the back and the loins with the sensation of a plug in the rectum. Sweat

about the perineum with severe itching and sensation of weight at the anus. Frequent itching at the anus, the patients scratch and tear the parts. Many patients experience a pain like an electric shock in the rectum and anus; sometimes extends even to the penis; it is also accompanied by a desire to go to stool, but without result. *Tendency to hæmorrhoids.* The stools frequently passed only with great efforts, in fragments and under the form of indurated balls. Constipation for several days, notwithstanding great disturbances in the intestines and a violent tenesmus; continued effort for a stool brings finally some hard and dry fragments, but in return the emission of urine is very free. We often see the constipation of one day, followed by a semi-liquid evacuation on the next.

Dr. Porges also says in relation to constipation:

“We would call attention especially to the fact that venous predominance in the abdomen, diseases of the liver and vena-porta, the vitiated quality or insufficiency of the bile, atony and relaxation of the intestinal canal, the various irritations of the intestines from gouty or other products, may occasion constipation as well as a diarrhœa.

“Let us speak first of the condition in which the residue of the digestion remains two, three, and sometimes eight days in the intestinal canal, without being retained by any mechanical obstruction, and

which occasions headache, heat of the face, loss of appetite, sensation of oppression, and also of fulness and weight in the hypogastrium, and more often still in the lumbar region, bad humor and restlessness (hysterics). The pathological conditions of this affection reside, either in the weakened intestinal mucous membrane, torpidity (in consequence of intestinal catarrhs, abuse of medicines or from the prolonged detention of fecal matter) ; or the cause lies in the torpor and want of energy of the muscular tunics, which appears in the cases of the diminution of the vena-portal circulation (hæmorrhoids) or in the blood dyscrasia (icterus) and in lead poisoning; it may also be observed in consequence of the too abundant development of gas or of fatty materials, and in cases of derangement or suppression of the cerebral circulation as in apoplexy. A sedentary or inactive life, an indigested nourishment, with too little liquid, are the near causes. In ameliorating or removing these principal conditions, our waters relieve the constipation; but it is very often necessary under these circumstances to renew the treatment two or three times."

Rational *hydrotherapy* and *massage* either singly or together with some of the means indicated in this work, have rendered services which it would be unjust to pass in silence. They are especially serviceable in the torpid forms. Ruddock recommends

compresses of cold water applied to the abdomen, when the general health of the subject permits. Dry or moist friction along the vertebral column are considered by many practitioners as not unworthy of the claim of an auxiliary.

## CONCLUSIONS AND RESUMÉ.

Various classifications have been made by different authors on the subject of constipation. We find in the Compendium the following:

1. Constipation resulting from the presence of foreign bodies obstructing the intestinal canal.

2. Constipation from structural lesions of the intestine, which may either diminish the calibre or furnish a cavity for the collection of the fecal matters.

3. Constipation from compression, strangulation or invagination of the intestine.

4. Constipation from absence of a fæcal residue.

5. Constipation resulting from excessive contractility of certain portions of the intestinal tube.

6. Constipation from inertia of the intestinal membranes.

7. Constipation from alteration of the products of exhalation and secretion which are thrown upon the surface of the intestinal tube.

M. Villemin divides this condition into five divisions.

1. Constipation from anæsthesia of the rectal mucous membrane;

2. From muscular paralysis;

3. From muscular spasm;

4. From induration of the stools;

5. From mechanical obstruction.

According to M. Martineau, constipation may be the consequence :

1. Of a trouble arising in the contractile tissue of the intestine or in the abdominal muscles ;

2. Of an alteration in the secretions of the intestines themselves or of the glands connected with the intestinal tract ;

3. Finally of a mechanical obstruction to the free course of the fæcal matter.

Kallenbach indicates as immediate causes of the constipation, the following pathological states :

1. Atony of the intestinal canal, especially of the lower portion ;

2. An irritative state of the intestinal canal, due to nervous troubles, or rheumatic and inflammatory irritation ;

3. Hæmorrhoids ;

4. Organic diseases of the liver ;

5. Stenosis and disorganization in the intestinal canal.

Noack gives :

1. Inertia of the intestines ;



2. Alteration of the intestinal mucous secretion ;
3. Contraction of the muscular fibres ;
4. Irritation or congestion of the intestine ;
5. Hæmorrhoids.

We will not discuss here the merits or defects of these various classifications. It is a question of very complex pathogenesis and we do not believe it is possible to establish a classification so exact as to defy all criticism.

We have provisionally adopted the following classification :

1. Idiopathic ;
2. Irritative or sub-inflammatory ;
3. Spasmodic or constrictive ;
4. Paralytical ;
5. From diminution of the intestinal mucus ;
6. Mechanical obstruction ;
7. Hæmorrhoidal ;
8. Hepatic ;
9. Uterine ;
10. Infantile.

We know that this classification is no more exempt from omissions and imperfections than many of the others ; but it seems to us to include the greater number of the facts of ordinary practice, and it also allows of the grouping, in a more certain method, of the characteristic indications of the principal remedies of our school.

### 1. Idiopathic.

Many authors absolutely deny the existence of this form of constipation. Although admitting the difficulty of establishing *ex cathedra* the clinical reality of this division, yet we believe it can be admitted by analogy. However that may be, we range in this category the cases, numerous enough, of constipation, the pathogenetic origin of which is either not appreciable, or is obscure, and which cannot be better classified in the other sections.

Two important remedies dispute here the pre-eminence: *Nux vomica* and *Hydrastis canadensis*. It is difficult to draw the differential indications of these two substances. We believe, however, that *Nux vomica* ought to be employed in those subjects who are still vigorous, while that *Hydrastis* suits rather those persons who are debilitated and enfeebled, with a sickly appearance, or when there are active, persistent pains in the whole extent of the intestinal tract and at the same time fainting after each evacuation. It seems to us, moreover, that we can imitate here the method recommended by Hahnemann for all chronic diseases and especially advised for chronic constipation by Dr. Hughes: that is to say, to commence the treatment by one or more doses of Sulphur.

In case of failure by these medicines, recourse may be had to *Plumbum* or *Opium*, either singly or in

alternation. We prefer Opium if there is an entire absence of desire for stool; when the evacuations are of an enormous size, black and rounded; when constipation alternates with a very painful, choleraic form of diarrhœa; if there is a feeling of occlusion of the anus; if anorexia, weight in the stomach and retention of urine are present; principally in cases of lead poisoning or in aged persons, and those of lymphatic or even plethoric constitutions.

Plumbum is rather to be chosen if the obstinate constipation, with or without tenesmus, is accompanied with intense colic, nausea and vomiting, if the abdomen is hard and retracted, if the stools instead of being large, are composed of small, dark balls, sometimes enveloped in a light, greasy pellicle.

Other medicines may have to be consulted and notably: Bryonia, Lachesis, Lycopodium, Iris vers., etc.

## 2. Irritative or Sub-Inflammatory.

This form of constipation is often the consequence of sub-acute or chronic inflammatory diseases of the intestines. It sometimes follows typhoid fever, catarrhal and rheumatic fevers. The abuse of purgatives, too much animal food, the abuse of alcohol and spices seem to singularly favor its evolution.

The best treatment for this form is Bryonia and Nux vomica alternated, together with an intercurrent

dose of Sulphur. Bryonia is especially useful in summer, in acute cases, during an attack of rheumatism or disease of the liver, when gastric symptoms are present, congestion of blood to the head and chest with dyspnœa and chilliness, principally in choleraic subjects or those of sedentary habits.

Belladonna, Opium and Plumbum may be of service in acute cases. Mercurius and Podophyllum are sometimes called for in special cases.

### 3. Spasmodic or Constrictive.

The spasmodic action of the sphincters which opposes itself to the evacuation of the effete materials and perhaps also the spasm of the expulsive muscles, says Villemin, promotes the retention of stercoraceous matters and causes constipation from muscular spasm. It is besides impossible to call in question the existence of this form of constipation when we have read, in Boyer, for example, the history of fissures of the anus. This variety of constipation occurs especially in hysteria, hypochondria, chorea and as a general thing in all neuropathic subjects.

In the great majority of cases it will be well to begin the treatment with Nux vom. and Sulphur, either in succession or alternately.

If there are involuntary and at times periodic contractions of the anus with shooting pains deep in the anus, tenesmus either before or after an evac-

uation, and also prolapse of the rectum or fissure of the anus (*Sedum acre*), *Ignatia* is to be preferred. A sensation of crawling and itching in the rectum, as of worms, a dull pain in the rectum as if distended by gas, the etiological influences of a cold or carriage riding, and the complication of neuroses with or without spasms, characterize the indications for *Ignatia*.

If there exists every evening before going to bed a formicant tenesmus, and a violent pressure in the rectum without any evacuation, *Platina* is of service.

For pain and a paralytic sensation in the lumbar region spreading to the hips with aggravation on motion; if after the stool there arise marked sensations of constriction, prolapsus, fullness, dryness, itching and tenesmus, *Aesculus*. Hale compares *Aesculus* and *Nux vom.*: they have in common, hard, knotty and dry stools, and differentially, a white color for *Aesculus*, and a blackish-brown for *Nux vom.*

For urging desire and fruitless efforts at stool accompanied with erections, or when there is severe pain in the anus during an evacuation, *Thuja*.

The tenesmus and also prolapse of the rectum are within the sphere of action of *Mercurius* and *Podophyllum*.

*Calcarea carb.*, *Carbo veg.*, *Magnesia mur.* and *Zincum*, may at times be consulted with benefit.

#### 4. Paralytic.

If the motility of the muscles of the intestine and the walls of the abdomen is weakened or exhausted in its excito-motory source, the stasis of the fæcal matters is the necessary consequence of the powerlessness of the expulsive forces, and we have then constipation from muscular paralysis. This is undoubtedly one of the most frequent forms met with in practice. It appears especially in subjects of an advanced age, women, infants, persons who lead a sedentary life, or who live on an insufficient or innutritious diet, in the period of convalescence of those diseases accompanied by great debility, in chlorotic women and large eaters; it also forms a complication in the greater number of the affections of the nerve centers, and is present in paraplegia and many cases of metallic poisoning. Opium and lead, of which we have already spoken in connection with idiopathic constipation occupy here an important place. They will have to be employed often, either separately or alternately and according to the indications already given.

Nux vom. and Sulphur will be often useful on indications already given, and which will be found more fully given under hæmorrhoidal constipation.

*Lycopodium* should be thought of when the stools are semi-solid, semi-liquid, when there is a large collection of flatulency, acidity or irresistible som-

nolency after eating, red sediment in the urine with severe dorsal pains preceding its emission, or accompanied with cutting, burning pains in the urethra; also if there is paleness of the tissues, moroseness, depression of spirits, syncope; ringing of the ears during stool; in onanists; if fatty degeneration of the liver is present.

Natrum mur. will be indicated if there are fissures, throbbings, tearing and burning pains in the rectum; if there is a pressing down pain from the umbilicus to the pelvis, or a sensation of weight across the pelvis and bladder, aggravated when walking, and compelling the patient to sit bent forward; if there coexists gastralgia, pyrosis, acrid risings, a feeling of painful dryness in the mouth, and superficial ulcerations of the tongue; irritability and chronic dryness of the mucous membranes or a tendency to catarrhal affections; a disposition to cutaneous eruptions from a chill (eczema, acne, etc.); when there are diurnal sweatings; if the mental despondency is in ratio with the degree of severity of the constipation; sensitiveness to cold and emaciation; engorgements of the liver and spleen, as well as fatty degeneration and valvular lesions of the heart, will be additional reasons for calling attention to this remedy.

Kali carb. when, beside the special inactivity of the rectum, there is inertia of the abdominal muscles, as for example, in females who have had several

abortions or numerous and painful labors; contrary to that which happens under *Natrum mur.* the sweats are nocturnal. The coexistence of cardiac palpitations or a predisposition to pulmonary tuberculosis will strengthen the indications.

If, contrary to *Nux vom.*, the stools are *pale and large*; if the evacuation is effected only after violent efforts; if there is heavy pain, heat and itching at the anus, sensation of sand and gravel in the rectum; frequent venous engorgements and cardiac or cerebral congestions, alternating with hæmorrhoidal symptoms, *Collinsonia can.* will be indicated.

We use *Veratrum alb.* if there is dryness of the intestines, gastralgia, dyspepsia, bulimia with prompt satiety, hypochondria or mania, increased urinary secretion, abdominal engorgements, hepatic antecedents.

When the constipation is accompanied with atony of the sexual organs, *Phosphorus* or *Phosphoric acid* are to be studied.

*Silicea* when the stools are composed of large, hard, masses which are partially expelled by violent efforts but then return into the rectum.

*Causticum* in gouty, rheumatic and hæmorrhoidal subjects; when there is obstinate constipation from nerve and nutritive atony, with pallor of the face, pains and anxiety; and especially if the evacuations are pale, greasy, accompanied with vertigo or followed by palpitations, heat of face and sweats.



Hepar sulph. in smokers or when there has been the abuse of Mercury.

Alumina when there is inertia and at the same time dryness of the rectum, itching at the anus, pain in the stomach after stool.

Among the medicines which may be consulted in addition to the above mentioned, we would name Coccus, Staphisagria, Cinchonine, China, Aurum mur., and Prunus pad. We will have occasion also to mention some others especially Sepia.

### 5. From Diminution of the Intestinal Secretion.

This form characterized by extreme dryness of the excreta, is almost always associated with a chronic intestinal catarrh. When under the influence of a vicious alimentation, or special atmospheric conditions, a person is thrown into that morbid condition which some authors, and notably Chomel, have described under the name of *mucous state*, the constipation which seems due to a kind of cutisation of the intestinal mucous membrane, of which the scanty, thick, tenacious and dry mucosities are expelled only at long intervals and after very painful efforts.

Alumina occupies the first rank in this condition. We have already given some indications for this drug and we will give more in connection with infantile constipation.

Podophyllum is a rival of Alumina.

Bryonia is characterized by dark, dry, hard stools, as though burned.

Zincum has very dry, crumbled stools.

Veratrum alb., Magnesia mur., Opium, and Plumbum should be studied also.

## 6. From Mechanical Obstruction.

We include in this class those cases in which the constipation is due to a narrowing of the intestinal canal, either dependent upon some condition attacking one of the tunics of the intestine itself, or in consequence of extraintestinal tumors.

The medicines will vary according to the nature and seat of the obstruction. There is no doubt that the resources of the homœopathic therapeutics are very limited in this class. Nevertheless Platina, Colocynth, Nux vom., Opium and Sulphur, have been of some service.

## 7. Hæmorrhoidal.

Hæmorrhoids play an important and sometimes even the chief role in the production of constipation. We should not forget, however, that constipation, by the very fact of its existence, sometimes develops secondary hæmorrhoids. In the present division we have especially in view primary hæmorrhoids, or better, the hæmorrhoidal disease. This disease has been described in a masterly manner by Dr. Frédault.

Often symptomatic of gout, hæmorrhoids constitute one of the features of abdominal venous plethora known among the Germans under the name of abdominal congestion. Among the well-known signs necessary to diagnose this form of constipation, we will briefly cite: Alternation of constipation and diarrhœa, tenesmus, hæmorrhagic, serous or mucous secretions of the rectum, more or less intense pains in the rectum, coming on even without stool, gastralgia, dyspepsia, vertigo, migraine, deafness, epistaxis, bronchial catarrh, palpitations, eczema, dysuria, dental caries, abnormal development of the veins of the extremities.

The principal remedies here are *Nux vom.* and Sulphur administered alone or in alternation. Their special symptoms are known to all our readers, but we will try and give their particular indications.

*Nux vom.* is of service in nearly all the forms of constipation, especially the hæmorrhoidal, when there is contraction or inactivity of the intestine in consequence of the diminution of the peristaltic movements, simple hæmorrhoidal diathesis or hæmorrhoidal flow. Tenesmus, alternation of diarrhœa and constipation, pressure in the region of the stomach and liver, distention of the epigastrium and abdomen with gas, producing dyspnœa; weight, heat, pains in the side, sharp cutting pains in the hypogastrium; dyspepsia with predominance of

acidity and flatulency, especially when there is at the same time menorrhagia united with a congestion of the vena-portal system, or if there exists hypochondria, anxiety with attacks of congestion of the thorax or brain, night restlessness with day somnolency, chills. Also in persons of sedentary habits, students, men of letters, drinkers of alcohol, coffee or tea, in smokers of tobacco or opium, onanists, from prolonged night vigils, and abuse of purgatives.

As already remarked many practitioners advise that the treatment of chronic constipation should begin with Sulphur, especially in the hæmorrhoidal form. If the symptoms given in connection with *Nux vomica* have a marked chronicity; if the frequent and ineffectual desire for stool is so painful as to lead to the postponing of the act, and is accompanied by prolapse of the rectum; if the stools when passed have a chestnut- or olive-shape; if there is a concomitant pain in the vulva; if there is a distention of the belly from incarceration of gas, numerous dyspeptic phenomena, general malaise, inability to think, Sulphur is to be employed. You will have a still greater chance of success if there exists an excessive irritability of fibre and when the lymphatic, hypochondriac or hæmorrhoidal subject has psoric or herpetic antecedents, either personal or hereditary.

Aesculus is adapted to this form when it presents the character described under the spasmodic form.

*Collinsonia can.* has been studied under the paralytic form.

*Lycopodium* is likewise worthy of attention in many cases of hæmorrhoidal constipation, when the symptoms previously given are present.

*Carbo veg.* when the stools are preceded by a great quantity of gas (inodorous or fetid), but are themselves scanty and very hard; if the hæmorrhoidal constipation is accompanied with pruritus, violent tenesmus or burning in the anus and pains in the hypogastrium like labor pains; if there is a mucous discharge in connection with the hæmorrhoids, and at the same time the tongue is coated in the centre and red at the edges, with acidity and cardialgia.

If there is an alternation of constipation and diarrhœa, with indigested matter and fetid flatuosities, *Calcarea carb.* is indicated. This remedy in alternation with Sulphur is adapted to many cases of chronic hæmorrhoidal constipation.

If, on the contrary, diarrhœa never alternates with the constipation, and we have a delayed menstruation, with pain in the hæmorrhoidal protrusions, long-standing constipation with hardness in the region of the liver, and the stools are composed of large balls connected together by mucous filaments, or small like ascarides; also in herpetic or scrofulous subjects, *Graphites* will be well indicated.

Nitric acid when there is an intestinal dyspepsia

and painless constipation, or if the evacuations, preceded by a great pressure, are followed by a mucous discharge and shooting pains in the rectum; if painful hæmorrhoidal tumors appear after each stool, together with a bloody discharge; if there has been an excessive use of salt, or a laryngeal cough more or less analogous to whooping cough is present.

Belladonna will be useful for distention of the abdomen, prominent projections of knots of intestines, together with heat of the head, abundant sweats, a sensation of constriction in the breast and violent pains in the kidneys.

Lachesis should be studied when you find, in those of the hæmorrhoidal diathesis, women at the climacteric age or persons of sedentary habits, an obstinate constipation, with pressure or constant constriction and great pain in the rectum and anus without stool, or if the constipation is accompanied with a feeling of weight or pressure on the stomach, with ineffectual efforts at eructation, stools hard, scanty and insufficient; prolapse of the rectum is also a special indication for this remedy.

Many other remedies may be indicated in this form of constipation, notably *Hydrastis*, *Nat. mur.*, *Sepia*.

### 8. Hepatic.

The anatomical and physiological relations of the liver and intestine are too intimate not to influence

each other in their pathological affections. So we have thought it well to devote a paragraph to those cases, which frequently occur, in which hepatic troubles interpose in a marked manner. A subicteric tint, a sensitiveness, more or less blunted, of the right hypochondrium, and modifications in the coloration of the fæces lead us to the diagnosis.

*Nux vomica* is here of great importance.

*Podophyllum* and *Podophyllin* should be consulted when icterus is present.

*Mercurius cor.* is serviceable not only in constipation from pseudo-membranous inflammation of some portion of the large intestine, but also in hæmorrhoidal colic with tumefaction of the liver and abdominal venous stasis.

Among the other remedies from which a choice may sometimes be necessary, we would mention *Aconitum*, *Aloes*, *Bryonia*, *China*, *Chelidonium*, *Crocus*, *Curare*, *Lachesis*, *Vipera torva*, *Lycopodium*, *Phosphorus*, Carlsbad waters.

### 9. Uterine Constipation.

Under this title we include the numerous cases of constipation in which the generative system is evidently involved. From the time of puberty, the date of activity of this organic system until the menopause, which marks progressive torpor, menstruation, pregnancy, labor, lactation, the path-

## HOMŒOPATHIC TREATMENT.

ological affections of the womb, either with or without displacement, with or without change of structure, diseases of the ovaries, and the other accessory organs to the uterus, may impress upon the constipation a mark quite characteristic.

Most of the remedies which we shall mention have already been the object of special mention.

*Pulsatilla* will be indicated in females who are of mild disposition, easily chilled, sad, lymphatic, chlorotic constitution, subject to dysmenorrhœa or flying rheumatic pains, when the difficult evacuation of the stool is accompanied by a painful pressure and backache; or when, during the menses, there is a pressive pain from above downward into the hypogastrium and sacrum, with tendency of the inferior members to become numb when remaining seated, with vain efforts at stool. The alternation of diarrhœa and constipation, excessive hunger, and the repugnance to fatty substances, add to the characteristic indications of this drug.

Kreosote for constipation during the menses.

Graphites includes the most of the characteristics assigned to *Pulsatilla* but they are of a more chronic form under this drug.

*Sepia* is very frequently indicated in the constipation of uterine origin, and especially in pregnant women. Frequent but ineffectual efforts at stool or followed only by an emission of wind and mucosities;



prolapse of the rectum at stool, or a constrictive pain in the rectum spreading to the perineum and vagina; displacement of the uterus, leucorrhœa, rheumatic, hæmorrhoidal or herpetic diathesis; emaciation; pyrosis, dyspepsia with sensation of cold in the stomach alternating with headache, migraine, are all indications for the use of *Sepia*.

*Lilium tig.* resembles many of the symptoms of *Sepia*.

*Nux vom.* and *Ignatia* alternately are often of great service in the constipation of pregnant women. For the same condition we have also, *Bryonia*, *Sulphur*, *Lycopodium*, and *Alumina*.

*Collinsonia* for constipation and hæmorrhoids in consequence of the congestive inertia of the large intestine, a state which often occurs during the middle and later months of pregnancy. This drug also includes in its sphere of action, dysmenorrhœa, pruritus vulvæ and even prolapsus uteri.

*Platina* is useful in many cases of chronic constipation in hysterical women, subject to menorrhagia, when there is displacement of the uterus, and also in lying-in women. *Nymphomania* will be an additional indication. This latter complication may require *Gratiola*.

*Bryonia* is in a certain sense to be considered almost as a specific in the constipation of lying-in women. Dr. Leadam, however, prefers in place of

it—except in some subject of bilious temperament—*Nux vomica*; but whichever of these two remedies he may choose, he always administers *Hepar sulph.* in alternation with it; he also gives, if necessary, *Plumbum* in the morning, and *Opium* in the evening, still reserving for obstinate cases *Zincum*. Beside *Platina* already mentioned, we would cite *Antimonium*.

According to Dr. Ludlam, when there exists at the same time paralysis of the rectum and uterine displacements, the best remedies are: *Alumina*, *Nux vom.*, *Natrum mur.*, *Plumbum*, *Opium*, *Belladonna*, *Sulphur*, *Zincum*, and *Lycopodium*.

### 10. Infantile.

Childhood, that is to say the period between birth and puberty, is characterized by a gradual increase in the growth of all the tissues and a corresponding activity of the nutritive organs. To this is added a very marked impressibility of the whole nervous system. It is not unreasonable then to devote a paragraph to the constipation of children.

“In some cases the constipation may be due to functional derangement of the liver as in jaundice, where the stools may be hard, dry and clay-colored, showing a deficiency in the secretion of bile. Deficient or too tenacious intestinal mucus is another cause; the constipation of most febrile affections is

mainly due to this condition, or to augmented perspiratory, or urinary secretions. Nervous, acid children are predisposed to constipation. The nutriment, especially the amylaceous class, boiled milk, soups containing meal, rice, sago, etc., is another cause. Too slight peristaltic movement of the intestinal tube as a secondary effect in other diseases as hydrocephalus or atrophy is another causative influence. Mechanical obstructions, incarcerated hernia, intussusception, occlusions, etc., may also produce it.

“The diet of either mother or child is at fault usually. Liquid food five or six times a day will usually correct this abnormal condition, oatmeal gruel between meals with plenty of milk and water, or chocolate or cocoa-shell tea at meal is an excellent diet for mother and child.”—T. C. Duncan, M.D., *Diseases of Children*.

We take the following from the *Homœopathic Times*, vol. viii., p. 191: At a clinical lecture, Professor Jacobi, of New York, called attention to a form of infantile constipation not mentioned in the books. In this affection the color of the fæces is about normal, but they are deficient in moisture. They are dry and somewhat friable. The passages of young babies are never normally like this. There is evidently here a lack of moisture which may possibly arise from an insufficient secretion on the part

of the intestinal glands. It may arise from other causes, one of which is a peculiar anatomical condition occasionally occurring in the bowels of the new-born or young infants. A few anatomists have recognized that the intestinal tract is different in the young from what it is in the old. The colon is very much larger and longer in proportion in the child than in the adult, and this peculiar condition often remains up to the age of five or six years. The child may have two or even three sigmoid flexures, or the real sigmoid flexure may not be found on the left side, but on the right. In the passages of the young, where the peristaltic action of the bowel is normal, and the colon of the usual proportion, the fæces will not be dried out; but where the flexure is long, or there are two of them, the fæces will dry out. In the fœtus and the new-born the secretions of the intestines are very copious. There is a great deal of mucus and epithelium, which may become very dry and compressed—to such an amount, indeed, as to constitute actual obstruction. Dr. Jacobi stated that he has met with a number of cases in children that could not be explained in any other way than by the supposition that there were two or three sigmoid flexures, one on the top of the other, and impeding the free passage of the fæces. In the treatment of a case where such a state of things is suspected, the diet must be regulated so that there

may be an abundance of water in the food. In the choice of food, oatmeal is to be given in preference to tapioca, rice, or even barley. Purgatives ought not to be given except in urgent cases. Injections are very useful and cannot be dispensed with. Another cause of constipation like this may be that there is an insufficient physiological action of the muscular layer of the intestines. This may occur in feeble children. In another class of children this constipation does not appear until from six months to one year after birth, and then, from being perfectly regular they become obstinately constipated. In this class the muscles of voluntary motion as well as those of the intestine, become diminished in power; they are rachitic children.]

*Nux vomica* is of service for infants where the nurse indulges to excess in the use of coffee, tea or spiced meats, and in those children who have been fed too prematurely or too freely upon animal food, it will be additionally indicated if there is at the same time anorexia, vomitings, distention of the abdomen, insomnia, oppression of breath, continual restlessness; violent and ineffectual efforts at defecation. The absence of this latter symptom, all the others being present, will be an indication for *Opium*. *Bryonia* is a remedy analogous to *Nux vom* and may be alternated with it with benefit. A brownish coating on the tongue is a further indication for *Bryonia*.

In the occasional constipation of nervous children and especially during dentition, Chamomilla will be of service. But in nervous children with large heads, dilated pupils, subject to convulsive movements and startings during sleep, with disturbed dreams, Belladonna will be often indicated.

Calcarea will sometimes be called for in analogous circumstances. Kreosote is adapted to emaciated children during dentition.

Many physicians recommend Lycopodium as the principal remedy in the obstinate constipation of young children, when there are present the following: ineffectual efforts; alteration of features; the abuse of farinaceous, heavy, indigestible articles of diet.

[Prof. J. P. Mills, of Chicago, in a paper read before the Thirty-fifth session of the American Institute of Homœopathy, considers Lycopodium as *the* remedy for infantile constipation and colic. He bases his opinion upon the well-known physiological function of the liver and the corresponding dependence of the kidneys in excreting nitrogenous substances eliminated from the blood by the liver, and the consequent renal complications which so often appear in constipation due to the absence of the proper biliary secretion. Lycopodium having these organs as fields for its action becomes a well-indicated drug for the conditions under discussion.]

Platina is useful when the evacuations take place only after violent efforts, necessitating at times manual extraction, and are composed of small, black and hard pieces.

When, with the inertia corresponding to Platina, the evacuations are dryer and paler, and the etiological conditions of a farinaceous diet mentioned under *Lycopodium* are present, in infants artificially nourished, *Alumina* will be of service.

If, in infants brought up by hand, an obstinate constipation with hard stools, which crumble on passage, of a clay color streaked with green follows a diarrhœa; if there is prolapse of the rectum, and a coexisting paleness of the skin and insomnia, *Podophyllum* should be consulted.

If with the same pallor of the skin, there is a yellowish coloration of the conjunctivæ and an accompanying salivation, together with pale and whitish evacuations, *Mercurius* will be better indicated.

When, after the employment of *Platina* and *Lycopodium*, the rectum alone still remains in an inactive state almost approaching a paralysis, *Veratrum alb.* will be serviceable. *Sulphur* and *Alumina* may also be required in some cases.

*Crocus sativa* has often benefited the constipation of infants associated with troubles of the vena-portal system.

Plumbum, Opium, Hydrastis, Zincum, Phytolacca Graphites, Silicea, Nitric acid, etc., should also be consulted for infantile constipation.

The most frequent form of constipation is the paralytic. Then we have in the order of frequency, the hæmorrhoidal, infantile, irritative, uterine, and hepatic. The other forms are more rarely met with in practice.

We would add that habitual, hereditary or constitutional constipation is not a serious condition and the physician should not be unnecessarily concerned in regard to it. The constipation itself of the lying-in woman is rarely serious. The same is true of the constipation which accompanies the mild form of acute diseases or which occurs in convalescents or those under a forced diet. It is different, however, if the constipation is accidental, obstinate, and accompanied with repeated vomitings, and extreme distention of the stomach, or if the accumulation of the fæces is so great as to produce symptoms of strangulation. If the patient has an old hernia, the constipation should be carefully watched. We should not forget also that in children constipation sometimes predisposes to meningitis, and constitutes at times its first symptom; do not neglect then the constipation occurring in children, no matter what may be its organic form. The solicitude of the



physician should be equally great when constipation attacks plethoric persons who are subject to congestive headaches, with a marked tendency to hyperæmia of the nervous centres or who already suffer from severe lesions of the same centres ; also when the concomitant symptoms give rise to the fear of organic alteration of the abdominal viscera, or the initial signs of a cachexia appear in a more or less obscure form.

*PART III.*

---

PALLIATIVE OR SURGICAL  
TREATMENT.  
-----

In connection with the preventive, hygienic and accessory treatment we have already mentioned several medico-surgical means, especially the injections and tampons of charpie introduced into the rectum.

Suppositories, says Trousseau, are, for men especially, more easily employed than anal injections. Suppositories of cacao-butter are sufficient in the greater number of cases; suppositories of soap or honey are also efficacious.

Merat and Delens, in their *Dictionnaire Universel de Matière Médicale*, mention the singular expedient of Dr. King, of Glasgow, who removed a constipation of six days standing, which had resisted all attempts at a cure, by distending the rectum with air from a pair of bellows; an evacuation followed this procedure and all danger ceased.

Under the head of compression, in the same work, we read: "One of the most prompt means for

removing a constipation due to a spasmodic constriction of the anal sphincter, is to make strong lateral pressure (on the left by preference) upon one of the sides of the cone which the fæces form for the purpose of expulsion during the first efforts at defecation; a mechanical pressure which forces the spasm and which does not possess the uncleanness of the digital traction nor the pain attendant upon the use of an instrument, means to which we are sometimes compelled to resort."

When the rectum, says Grisolle, is distended by a tampon of indurated fæcal matter, and when the efforts at contraction are not sufficient for its expulsion, when the injections or ascending douches are insufficient either to remove or soften, it is necessary to extract them with a curette or with a handle of a spoon or better still, with the index finger. When the mass is broken, a cold injection or the ascending douche is often sufficient to expel the fæcal mass entire.



## PART IV.

---

# REPERTORY.

---

### FORMS AND CONDITIONS.

Accidental: Arn. Cann. sat. Cham. Op.

Acute: Bry. Nux vom.

Chronic: Aes. h. Calc. c. Caus. Ferr. acet. Graph.  
Guaræa. Hydras. Lach. Lippspringe waters. Lycop.  
Natrium m. Nux v. Op. Phyt. Plat. Plumb. Puls.  
Sepia. Sulph. Tabac. Ver. alb.

Climacteric: Lach. Sulph. ac.

Diminution of intestinal secretion (from): Alum.  
Bry. Mag. m. Op. Plumb. Pod. Ver. alb. Zinc.

Hæmorrhoidal: Aes. h. Aur. m. Bell. Caus. Collin.  
Calc. c. Carbo v. Graph. Hydras. Lach. Lycop.  
Natrium m. Nitric ac. Nux. Sepia. Sulph.

Hepatic: Acon. Aloe. Bry. Carlsbad waters. Chel.  
China. Crocus. Curare. Lach. Lyc. Merc. cor. Nux.  
Phos. Pod. Vipera torva.

Idiopathic: Bry. Hydras. Iris. Lach. Lyc. Nux. Op.  
Plumb.

Infantile: Alum. Bell. Bry. Calc. c. Caus. Cham.  
Crocus sat. Graph. Guaræa. Hydras. Kreos. Lycop.

Merc. Nitric ac. Nux. Op. Phyt. Plat. Plumb.  
Pod. Puls. Sepia. Silicea. Sulph. Ver. alb. Zinc.

Inflammatory: Bell.

Irritative or subinflammatory: Bell. Bry. Merc.  
Nux. Op. Plumb. Pod. Sulph.

Mechanical obstruction (from): Colocynth. Nux.  
Op. Plat. Sulph.

Obstinate: Asaf. Calabar. Lach. Plumb. Potassium  
brom. Sarsap. Teplitz waters.

Paralytic: Aloe. Alum. Aurum m. Caus. China.  
Cinchon. Cocc. Cod-liver oil. Collin. Gels. Graph.  
Hep. s. Kali c. Lycop. Natrum m. Nux. Op. Phosp.  
Phosp. ac. Phyt. Plumb. Prun. pad. Secale. Sepia.  
Silic. Staph. Sulph. Ver. alb.

Spasmodic or Constrictive: Aes. h. Calc. c. Carbo v.  
Ign. Mag. m. Merc. Nux. Plat. Pod. Sedum acre.  
Sulph. Thuja. Zinc.

Uterine: Alum. Antimon. Bell. Bry. Collin. Graph.  
Grat. Hepar s. Hydras. Ign. Kreos. Lil. tig. Lycop.  
Natrium m. Nux. Op. Plat. Plumb. Sepia. Sulph.  
Zinc.

### CONSTITUTIONS OR TEMPERAMENTS.

Bilious: Nitric ac.

Blondes: Puls. Sepia.

Brunettes, with rigid fibre: Nitric ac.

Choleric: Bry.

Gouty: Caus.

Herpetic: Graphites,

Hypochondriacal : Bell. Carbo v. Con. Graph. Grat.  
 Lippspringe waters. Sulph. Ver. alb.  
 Hysterical : Mag. mur.  
 Lymphatic : Alum. Puls. Sil. Sulph.  
 Melancholic : Aloe. Puls. Sepia.  
 Mild : Ign. Puls. Sepia.  
 Nervous : Ign.  
 Plethoric : Lippspringe. Op.  
 Rheumatic : Caus. Colocynth. Helleb. Puls. Rhus  
 Stram.  
 Robust : Alum. Op. Plumb.  
 Sanguine : Sil.  
 Scrofulous : Con. Graph.  
 Torpid : Op.  
 Venous : Aloe.  
 Weak and debilitated : Alum. Calc. c. Hydras. Phyt.

---

### CHARACTER OF THE STOOLS.

Balls, in the form of : Aes. h. Aloe. Alum. Carls-  
 bad. Mez. Plumb. Sep. Stan. Sulph. Ver. alb.  
 —, dry : Alum. Plat.  
 —, hard : Carbon bisulph. Thuja.  
 Blood : Cinch. Nux. Sep. Sulph. ac. Teplitz water,  
 Thuja.  
 — and mucus : Caus. Graph. Mag. m. Merc. Pod.  
 —, clotted : Ver. alb.  
 Brittle : Zinc.

Color, bilious: Aloe.

——, black (see Dark).

——, burnt (see Dark).

——, dark: Acon. Aes. h. Arsen. Bry. Carbon bisulph. Kreos. Mag. m. Merc. Mez. Nux. Op. Plat. Plumb. Sulph. Ver. alb.

——, grayish (see Light).

——, greenish: Arsen. Merc. Pod. Stan.

——, light: Aes. h. Aloe. Alum. Calc. c. Caus. Collin. Hepar s. Hydras. Ign. Kali bi. Lach. Merc. Pod. Sil.

——, white (see Light).

——, yellow: Cham.

Crumbling: Mag. m. Plat. Prun. s. Sulph. ac.

Diarrhœa, alternating or succeeded by: Agar. mus. Ammon. m. Calc. c. Carlsbad waters. Lach. Natrum m. Nitric ac. Nux. Op. Pod. Puls. Stan. Staph. Sulph.

——, —— ——— fermented: Calc. c.

——, —— ——— involuntary: Calc. c.

——, —— ——— liquid yellow: Hepar s.

——, —— ——— painful: Op.

——, —— ——— sour-smelling: Calc. c.

——, —— ——— thin or watery: Iris vers.

Difficult: Aes. h. Agar. m. Alum. Ammon. m. Apis. Calc. c. Carbo v. Carbon bisulph. Caus. Cocc. Euphras. Grat. Hepar s. Kali c. Lach. Nat. m. Nitric ac. Phos. Plat. Pod. Zinc.

—— but soft: China. Ign. Puls. Silic.



Dry: Aes. h. Agar. Alum. Bry. Calc. c. Carlsbad.  
Euphras. Hepar s. Kali bi. Kali c. Kreos. Nitric  
ac. Phos. Pod. Silic. Stan. Staph. Sulph. Zinc.

Fluid: Calc. c.

Frequent: Lach.

Granulous: Zinc.

Greasy appearance: Caus. Plumb.

Gummy: Calc. c.

Hard: Acon. Aes. g. Aes. h. Agar. m. Alum. Ammon.  
m. Apis. Aurum. m. Bry. Calc. c. Carbo v. Car-  
bon bisulph. Carlsbad. Caus. Cinch. Cocc. Con.  
Euphras. Graph. Grat. Hepar s. Hydras. Iris v.  
Kreos. Kali bi. Lach. Mag. m. Merc. Mez. Nat. m.  
Nat. s. Nux. Op. Plat. Pod. Prun. s. Puls. Ratanhia.  
Ruta. Sel. Sep. Sil. Stan. Sulph. Sulph. ac. Tabac.  
Teplitz waters. Thuja. Zinc.

—— and then soft: Caus. Hepar s. Lycopod.

—— as stone: Bry. Kali bi. Lye. Plumb.

Indigested: Calc. c.

Insufficient: Aloe. Alum. Calc. c. Carbo v. Carbon  
bisulph. Cinch. Con. Euphras. Grat. Hepar s.  
Lach. Lye. Mag. c. Mag. m. Merc. Nat. c. Nux.  
Plat. Plumb. Ruta. Sep. Stan. Staph. Sulph.  
Thuja. Zinc.

Irregular: Nitric ac.

Knotty: Aes. g. Aes. h. Aur. m. Caus. Graph.  
Hydras. Kali bi. Mag. m. Merc. Mez. Nat. s. Nitric  
ac. Nux. Op. Sep. Stan. Sulph. Thuja.

Large: Aes. h. Apis. Bry. Calc. c. Cham. Euphras.  
Graph. Ign. Kali bi. Kali. c. Mag. m. Nat. m. Nux.  
Op. Puls. Sabad. Sil. Thuja. Ver. alb. Zinc.

- Large, first stool, afterwards small : Ver. alb.  
 ———, requiring manual aid : Plumb. Selen. Sepia.  
 Long : Phos.  
 ——— and slender : Graph. Merc.  
 Lumpy : Mag. m. Plat. Prun. s. Sulph. ac.  
 ——— and of a chalk color : Calc. c.  
 Masses, broken : Alum. Carlsbad. Collin. Lyc. Merc.  
 ———, lumpy with mucous threads : Graph.  
 ———, tough and scanty : Carbo veg.  
 Mucus, covered with : Alum. Ammon. m. Calc. c.  
     Carbo v. Hydras. Merc. Plumb. Puls.  
 ———, mixed with blood : Caus. Graph. Mag. m.  
     Merc. Pod.  
 ———, thick, transparent : Pod.  
 ———, tough, glairy : Ammon. m.  
 ———, white : Ammon. m. Graph. Kali c.  
 ———, yellow : Pod.  
 Mushy : Calc. c. Carbon bisulph. Ign.  
 Odor, fetid : Calc. c. Lach. Stan.  
 ——— of drug : Carbon bisulph.  
 Olive-shaped : Caus.  
 Scanty (see Insufficient).  
 Tenacious : Grat. Merc. Plat.  
 Tough : Caus.

---

### AGGRAVATIONS.

- Anus, pains at, on motion : Thuja.  
 Carriage-riding : Alum. Ign.

- Chill, after a : Ign. Merc.  
 Coffee, use of : Nux.  
 Constipation, from the : Hydras.  
 Diarrhœa, after acute : Merc. Nux.  
 ——— long-lasting : Op.  
 Disease, weakening, after : Op.  
 Eating, excess in : Aloe. Nux. Puls. Stan.  
 Eruptions, suppressed, from : Lye.  
 Heat, excess of : Bry.  
 Lead-poisoning, from : Alum. Op. Plat. Sulph.  
 Liquors, use of : Agar. m. Calc. Lach. Nux. Op. Puls.  
 Sulph.  
 Menses, during the : Aur. m. Puls.  
 Night, at : Merc.  
 Onanism, from : Lye. Nux.  
 Sedentary life : Aloe. Bry. Hydras. Iris. Lach. Lye.  
 Nux. Op. Plat. Pod. Raphan. s. Sulph.  
 Stool, from hardness of : Arn. Mag. m. Ver. alb.  
 Verbasc.  
 Summer, in : Bry.  
 Teething, from : Guaræa. Mag. m.  
 Tobacco, from : Hep. s. Nux v.  
 Traveling : Alum. Ign. Op. Plat.  
 Winter, in : Stan.  
 Women, in : Aloe. Plat. Puls.  
 ———, good humored, corpulent : Op.  
 ———, nervous : Bell. Mag. m.  
 Youths, in : Cod-liver oil.

## ACCOMPANIMENTS OF THE EVACUATIONS.

*a.* BEFORE STOOL.

Abdomen, colic pains: Nitric ac. Plumb.

——, ——with flatulency: Lye.

Air, sensibility to cold: Mez.

Anus (see Rectum).

Anxiety: Caus. Kali c.

Back, pains in: Nux.

Chills: Mez.

Desire (see Urging).

Face, redness of: Caus.

Fæces, large, accumulation of: Alum.

——, remain in rectum without expulsive power: Sil

Gas, emission of: Carbo v. Phyt. Ruta. Sabad. Sep.

——, —— fetid: Asaf. Mez.

——, rumbling of: Grat.

——, —— like croaking of frogs: Sabadilla.

Hæmorrhoids: Merc. Ver. alb.

——, painful as if ulcerated: Merc.

Hips, violent pains through the: Aes. h.

Hypogastrium, cutting pains in: Collin.

Languor: Mez.

Rectum, dryness of: Aes. h.

——, inactive: Hydras. Kali c. Puls. Sil. Stan.

——, pain in: Aes. h. Lycopod.

——, —— shooting: Carlsbad. Mag. carb. Plat.

——, prolapse of: Ruta. Sulph.

- Rectum, sensation as if closed: Anacard. Op.  
 —, — prolapsed: Aes. h. Sarsap.  
 —, — of burning and smarting in: Hydras.  
     Nat. m. Nat. s. Sil.  
 —, — foreign body in: Aes. h. Carlsbad. Lach.  
 —, — heat: Aes. h. Hydras.  
 —, — itching: Aes. h.  
 —, — pricking: Aes. h.  
 —, — small sticks: Aes. h.  
 —, — tenseness: Aes. h.  
 —, — weight: Aes. h. Asaf. Calc. c. Nux. Lach.  
     Lycopod. Plat. Plumb. Pod. Sarsap. Ver. alb.  
 Sacrum, violent pains in: Aes. h.  
 Tenesmus: Aes. h. Cocc. Grat. Mag. m. Nux. Lach.  
     Lycopod. Plat. Plumb. Pod. Sarsap. Ver. alb.  
 Urging, absence of: Alum. Bry. Hydras. Lycopod.  
     Nat. m. Op. Plumb. Puls. Ver. alb.  
 —, frequent (see Ineffectual).  
 —, ineffectual: Aes. h. Alum. Anacard. Asaf.  
     Bell. Calc. c. Caus. Cocc. Con. Ferr. acet. Graph.  
     Grat. Ign. Kali c. Lach. Lippspringe waters.  
     Lycopod. Mag. c. Mag. m. Nat. m. Nitric ac. Nux.  
     Plat. Plumb. Ruta. Sabad. Sarsap. Sep. Sil.  
     Staph. Sulph. Tabac. Teplitz waters. Thuja.  
 —, — agg. during the menses: Puls.  
 —, — with erections: Thuja.  
 —, sudden: Aloe.  
 — to urinate: Sarsap.

## b. DURING STOOL.

Abdomen, diarrhœic-like pains in : Carbo v. Plumb.  
Lippspringe waters.

——, sensation as if something would break on  
pressure : Apis.

——, soreness of muscles from straining : Sil.

——, Stinging pains in : Apis.

——, turning and twisting in : Anacard.

Anus (see Rectum).

Backache : Puls.

Blood, slight discharge of : Zinc.

Desire, absence of : Collin.

Ears, ringing in : Lycopod.

Evacuation, delayed : Calc. c. Gels. Mag. m. Nat. m.  
Merc. Sabad. Sep. Thuja.

——, easier when standing ; Caus.

——, painful : Agar. Bry. Carlsbad. Kreos. Lach.  
Lyc. Mag. m. Mez. Op. Plumb. Psor. Puls. Sulph.  
Thuja.

——, —— (dry, sandy stools : Zinc).

——, —— (soft stools) : Graph. Hepar s. Mez.  
Nat. s. Nitric ac.

—— prevented on account of severe pains : Caus.  
Kreos. Op. Sulph.

Fæces, discharge of soft, with relief : Carbo v.

—— remain at anus : Lach.

—— slip back when partially expelled : Silic.

Flatus, fetid : Asaf. Calc. c. Nat. s.

——, excessive : Sabad.

Flatus, hot: Aloe.

Fluid, oozing of, with herring-brine odor: Calc. c.

Hæmorrhage: Alum. Anacard. Calc. e. Nat. m.

Sepia. Sulph. Zine.

Hæmorrhoids: Aes. h. Caus. Plat. Sil. Thuja.

——, bleeding: Aes. h. Caus. Ign.

——, incarcerated: Silic.

——, pains severe: Aes. h. Calc. e.

——, pricking and burning in: Kali e.

Mucus, occasional discharge of: Mag. m. Pod.

——, slimy: Asaf.

——, vermiform shreds of: Stan.

Pains aggravated by efforts at stool: Lach. Thuja.

Plug, sensation of, between pubes and eoceyx: Aloe.

Rectum, loss of expulsive force of: Aes. h. Kali c.

Lippspringe.

——, —— with large but soft stool: Sil.

——, pains in (including cutting, etc.): Alum.

Caus. Graph. Lyc Nat. m. Nitrie ae. Phos. Plat.

Prun. s. Ratanhia. Sepia. Sarsap. Zine.

——, prolapsus of: Ign. Mez. Pod. Ruta.

——, sensation as if obstructed: Aes. h.

——, —— of burning: Carbo. v. Caus. Grat. Nat. s.

Nitrie ae. Plat. Ver. alb.

——, —— with prostration: Caus.

——, —— itching: Alum. Carbo v.

——, —— goneness (bloody stools): Ver. alb.

——, —— stiches in, extending to left groin:

Kreos.

Semen, discharge of: Alum. Hep. s. Zinc.

Shivering: Aes. h. Conium.

Straining (see Urging).

Tenesmus: Agar. Carlsbad. Caus. Kali b. Mez.  
Nat. c. Nat. m. Thuja.

Urging, severe: Acon. Alum. Bry. Calc. c. Carbo v.  
Carlsbad. Collin. Graph. Grat. Hydras. Ign. Kali  
b. Krcos. Lach. Merc. Nitric ac. Phos. Plumb.  
Pod. Puls. Ratanhia. Sepia. Silic. Sulph. Ver. alb.  
Zinc.

——, painless: Mez.

——, with soft stool: Stan. Zinc.

Urine, voiding of: Alum. Carlsbad.

Vertigo: Caus.

#### C. AFTER STOOL.

Abdomen, colic pains and diarrhœic discharges:  
Plumb.

——, —— heat and faintings: Hydras.

——, —— prostration: Nitric ac.

——, sensation of bearing down, relieved by passing  
flatus: Zincum.

——, —— emptiness: Carbo v. Plat.

——, —— fullness: Gels.

Anus, fissure of: Mez. Nat. m.

——, itching: Aes. h. Kali c. Sulph.

——, pains (sharp, etc.): Aes. h. Graph. Kali c.  
Nat. m. Plat. Sulph.

——, —— dull: Collin.



- Anus, prolapsus : Aes. h. Graph. Kali b. Lach. Merc.  
 Nat. m. Nitric ac. Pod. Sulph.
- , smarting, burning : Aes. h. Calc. c. Graph.  
 Grat. Hydras. Ign. Kali bi. Nat. m. Nitric ac.  
 Staph. Sulph.
- , throbbing, beating : Lach. Sulph.
- Back, pains in : Aes. h. Kali c.
- Coccyx, wrenching pain : Grat.
- Exhaustion : Pod.
- Eyes, burning in : Natrum c.
- Face, heat of : Caus.
- Faintness : Calc. c. Hydras. Lycopod.
- Flatus, painful accumulation of : Lycopod.
- Hæmorrhage : Aes. h.
- Hæmorrhoids : Hydras. Graph. Pod. Sepia.
- , bleeding : Aes. h. Merc. Nitric ac.
- , burning : Aes. h.
- , painful : Aes. h. Lach. Nat. m. Nitric ac.
- , reddish : Aes. h.
- Palpitations : Caus. Con.
- Perineum, contractive pain in : Lycopod.
- Prostration : Ver. alb.
- Rectum, burning : Aes. h. Calc. c. Hydras. Mag. m.  
 Nitric ac. Sep. Sulph.
- , pains lasting a long time : Alum. Graph.  
 Hydras. Nitric ac. Phos. Sulph.
- , — tearing, cutting : Sarsap.
- , sensation as if fæces still remained : Gels.  
 Lycopod. Nitric ac.

Relief: Calc. acet. Nux.

Sexual excitement: Natrum c.

Shivering: Grat. Mag. m. Mez. Plat.

Stomach, burning: Sabad.

——, pains: Alum.

Sweating: Acon. Caus.

Syncope: Calc. c. Hydras. Lycopod.

Tenesmus: Aes. h. Grat. Ign. Lach. Merc. Mez.

Nat. m. Nitric ac. Plat. Stan. Thuja. Zinc.

Thighs, spasmodic contraction of: Plat.

Umbilicus, colic at: Aes. h.

Urethra, burning in: Natrum c.

## GENERAL ACCOMPANIMENTS.

### I. MIND AND MOOD.

Anxiety: Caus. Lach. Nux v. Plumb.

Aversion to talking: Puls.

—— thinking: Nux. Sulph.

—— work: Nux.

—— ordinary occupations: Graph.

Changeable: Lycopod.

Complaining: Nux.

Depressed: Aes. h. Graph. Hydras. Merc. Nat. m.  
Nux. Plumb.

Hypochondriacal: Arsen. Lycopod. Nux. Sulph.  
Zinc.

Ill-humor: Nux. Puls. Stan.

Irresolute : Nux.  
 Irritable : Bry. Lycopod. Op.  
 Lassitude : Arsen. Ign. Lach. Nux.  
 Mania : Lach. Nitric ac.  
 Melancholic : Nux.  
 Morose : Graph. Lycopod. Puls.  
 Nervous : Op. Zinc.  
 Sadness : Lyc. Nat. m. Nux. Stan.

II. HEAD.

Forehead, heat in : Bry.  
 —, — ameliorated in open air : Stan.  
 —, pains : Iris :  
 —, — aggravated in the morning : Nux.  
 —, — hammering : Nux.  
 —, — pulsative : Bry. Nux.  
 —, weight : Graph.  
 Head, burning on vertex : Sulph.  
 —, congestion : Bell. Bry. China. Collin. Ferr.  
     acet. Nux. Op. Pod. Sulph.  
 —, — agg. mornings : Hydras. Nux v.  
 —, heat in : Bell. Bry. Nux. Stan. Ver. alb.  
 —, pains (not defined) : Bry. Carbo v. China.  
     Hydras. Kali bi. Lach. Merc. Nux. Op. Pod. Sep.  
     Ver. alb.  
 —, — dull : Arsen. Collin. Op. Pod.  
 —, — pulsative : Collin.  
 —, — sharp, shooting, agg. afternoon and  
     evening : Kali bi.

Head, ringing : Graph.

——, weight : Bry. Carbo v. Nux v.

Migraine : Iris. Merc.

Noise, sensitive to : Bell.

Perspiration, copious : Sil.

Syncope : Lyc.

Vertigo : Aes. h. Carbo v. China. Nux v. Op.

—— when turning in bed : Conium.

### III. EYES.

Eyes, burning in : Lach.

——, congested : Bell.

——, heavy : Graph.

——, painful : Bell. Lach.

——, —— and weak : Kali bi.

——, sensitive to light : Bell. Iris v.

——, spots or veil before : Iris v.

——, yellow : Merc.

Pupils dilated : Bell.

### IV. NOSE.

Catarrhal obstruction : Plat.

Coryza : Lach. Merc.

Snuffles : Plat.

### V. FACE.

Face, acne on : Aes. h. Nat. m.

——, copper color : Lyc.

——, earthy : Mag. m. Sil.

——, erythema : Alum.

Face, flushed : Bell. Bry. China. Graph. Mez. Nux.  
Op. Zinc.

——, —— agg. during digestion : China. Zinc.

——, heat in : Bry. Mez. Nux. Op.

——, grayish : Lycopod.

——, pale : Caus.

——, pustules on : Nat. m.

——, sallow : Arsen. Hydras. Nat. m.

——, sombre : Nux.

——, sweating of : Kali bi.

——, yellowish : Hydras. Nux.

Lips bluish (with palpitations) : Nux.

#### VI. MOUTH.

Aphthæ : Zinc.

Gums, pain in : Merc. Staph.

Mouth, dryness of : Alum. Nat. m. Nux. Op. Zinc.

——, soreness of : Nat. m.

Mucus, excess of : Puls.

Salivation : Merc.

Taste, acid : Nux v.

——, bad : Caus. Hydras. Merc. Staph.

——, —— agg. drinking water : Ferr. acet.

——, bitter : Caus. Nux. Puls.

——, flat : Ign.

——, foul : Kali bi.

——, greasy : Caus.

——, sweet : Plumb. Zinc.

Teeth, pain in carious : Mez.

Tongue and lips black : Lach.

—, coated : Hydras. Kali bi. Zinc.

—, — in centre, red edges : Carbo v.

—, — light : Collin. Nux.

—, — with mucus : Nux.

—, — white : Caus. Collin. Nux.

—, reddish : Kali bi. Zinc.

—, irritated : Alum.

—, papillæ prominent : Zinc.

—, superficial ulceration : Nat. m.

#### VII. APPETITE.

Appetite, canine : Bry. Sil. Sulph. Ver. alb.

—, — followed by nausea : Bry.

—, capricious : Alum. Caus. Ign. Merc. Staph.

—, diminished or lost : Asc. s. Bry. Caus. Carbo v.  
Collin. Kali bi. Lycop. Nat. m. Nux. Op. Plat.  
Plumb. Pod. Sil. Sulph.

—, good : Lach.

—, — at noon but wanting in the evening :  
Stan.

—, irregular : Staph.

—, soon appeased : Nux. Raphan. s. Ver. alb.

Desire for liquors : Sulph.

—, sweets : Sulph.

—, beer : Merc.

Disgust for fatty foods : Nitric ac.

—, meats : Sulph.

—, sweets : Caus.

Thirst : Caus. Nux. Op. Plumb.

VIII. ERUCTATIONS.

Eructations : Cinch. Kali bi. Sil. Sulph.

——, acid : Bry. Calc. c. Carbo v. Hydras. Lyc.  
Nat. m. Puls. Ver. alb. Zinc.

——, aggravated after eating : Nux. Plat.

——, bitter : Iris. Nux. Sep. Ver. alb.

——, burning : Nat. m.

——, ineffectual efforts at : Lach. Plat.

Hiccough : Sil.

Pyrosis : Carbo v. Gallic ac. Lyc. Mag. m. Sep. Sil.

IX. NAUSEA AND VOMITING.

Nausea : Aes. h. Calc. c. Carbo v. Cinch. Collin.

Ferr. acet. Nitric ac. Nux. Plumb. Puls. Sil. Sulph.

Teplitz waters.

——, aggravated from eating : Bry. Plumb.

——, —— in the morning : Mag. m.

——, —— when sitting up : Bry.

——, frequent : Alum. Iris. Puls.

——, paroxysms of : Sepia.

Vomiting and retching : Aes. h. Plumb.

——, bitter : Iris.

——, glairy : Sil.

——, of food : Plumb. Ptelea. Ver. alb.

——, —— chronic : Zinc.

——, mucus and bile : Zinc.

X. STOMACH.

Cardialgia : Carbo v. Ign. Lyc. Plumb. Sil. Zinc.

- Digestion slow and labored : Sil.  
 Epigastrium, anxious feeling in : Op.  
 —, burning distress in : Iris v.  
 Flatulent distention : Carbo v. Nitric ac.  
 Gastralgia (see Cardialgia).  
 Pyrosis : Carbo v. Gallic ac. Lyc. Mag. m. Sep. Sil.  
 Stomach, acidity of : Bry. Lyc. Nat. m. Zinc.  
 —, coldness in : Sepia.  
 —, constriction of : Sil.  
 —, fullness : Bry. Cinch. Nux. Ver. alb.  
 —, — agg. after eating : Bry. Nux. Ver. alb.  
 —, goneness in : Hydras. Nux.  
 —, — not relieved by eating : Ign.  
 —, heat in : Arsen. Ptelea. Zinc.  
 —, — agg. by eating : Graph.  
 —, irritation of : Arsen.  
 —, pains in : Carbo v. Cinch. Lach. Nux. Sep. Sil.  
 —, pressure or weight in : Bry. Hydras. Lach.  
     Nux. Op. Phos. Sil.  
 —, swollen : Carbo v. Graph. Nitric ac.  
 —, — and sensitive : Arsen. Carbo v.

## XI. ABDOMEN.

- Abdomen, bloated : Alum. Arsen. Calc. acet. Calc.  
     c. Carbo v. Cinch. Collin. Graph. Lach. Lyc. Mag.  
     m. Merc. Nat. m. Nux. Plumb. Puls. Sil. Stan.  
     Sulph. Ver. alb.  
 —, coldness : Plat.  
 —, colic pains : Calc. c. Cham. Collin. Hydras.  
     Lyc. Merc. Sil. Ver. alb.



- Abdomen, cramps (hysterical): Mag. m.  
 —, cutting: Alum. Cinch. Hydras. Iris v. Kali.  
     bi. Mag. m. Nat. m. Nux. Plumb. Ver. alb.  
 —, engorgement of organs of: Ver. alb.  
 —, hard: Kali c. Lach. Merc. Plumb. Sil.  
 —, heat in: Arsen. Hydras.  
 —, inflammatory irritation: Arsen. Bry.  
 —, numbness of: Arn.  
 —, oppression of: Nux.  
 —, pains (undefined): Alum. Asaf. Stan. Sulph.  
 —, — from above downwards: Nat. m. Plat.  
     Puls.  
 —, pinchings in: Mag. m. Puls.  
 —, retracted: Plumb.  
 —, sensitive to cold: Nitric ac.  
 —, — touch: Arsen. Calc. acet. Carbo v. Sulph.  
 —, soreness of: Arsen.  
 —, tympanitic: Calc. c. Cham. Lyc. Nitric ac.  
     Nux. Sulph.  
 —, weakness of: Plat.  
 —, weight in: Alum. Lyc. Nux. Op.  
 Bladder, dull pains over: Lach.  
 Flatus: Carbo v. Collin. Con. Ign. Phos. Plat. Puls.  
     Sil. Zinc.  
 —, acid: Carbon bisulph.  
 —, colic with: Cham. Collin. Lach. Lyc. Zinc.  
 —, emission of: Alum. Graph. Lyc. Nux. Pod.  
 —, — with relief: Calc. acet.

Flatus, emission of, without relief: Lycop.

——, fetid: Aes. h. Carbo v. Hydras. Pod. Zinc.

——, gurgling of: Carbo v. Caus. Lye. Nat. m.

——, hot: Zinc.

——, incarcerated: Lach. Lye. Sulph.

Hip, pain over left: Lach.

Hypochondrium, constriction in: Hydras. Mag. m.  
Nux.

——, gas in: Cham. Kali bi.

——, —— left: Lye.

——, hardness in right: Graph.

——, —— left: Nat. m.

——, pains in right: Bry. Carbo v. Kali bi. Merc.  
Pod. Ver. alb.

Intestines, large, pains in: Hydras.

Pelvis, dragging weight in: Collin.

——, pressure across, and bladder, agg. when walk-  
ing: Nat. m.

——, ——, without stool: Op.

Umbilicus, colic pains: Cinch. Plat.

## XII. ANUS AND RECTUM.

Anus, congestion of: Bry. Sep.

——, crawling: Carbo v. Carlsbad. Cocc. Crocus.

——, electric-like shots in, extending to penis:  
Carlsbad.

——, —— ——, agg. at night: Phyt.

——, eruptions: Lye. Nat. m.

——, fissures: Caus. Graph. Ign. Nat. m. Phyt. Rat.

- Anus, fistule: Caus.  
 —, heat: Sil.  
 —, irritable: Bry. Nux. .  
 —, itching, smarting: Aes. h. Alum. Calc. c.  
 Carbo v. Carlsbad. Caus. Cocc. Collin. Kali c.  
 Lippspringe waters. Lyc. Sep. Thuja.  
 —, moisture: Nat. m. Sep.  
 —, — acrid: Carbo v. Caus.  
 —, — offensive: Thuja.  
 —, mucous membrane excoriated: Lyc.  
 —, — injected: Lyc.  
 —, pains, cutting: Alum. Lyc. Nux. Plumb.  
 —, prolapsus (see Rectum).  
 —, sensation as if contracted or closed: Aes. h.  
 Nat. m. Nux. Op. Plumb.  
 —, — of cold drops falling: Cann. sat.  
 —, — sand in: Collin.  
 —, — small sticks: Aes. h.  
 —, sensitive to touch: Lyc.  
 —, swelling: Hep. s.  
 —, tenesmus: Ign. Lach. Lyc. Nat. m. Nux. Plat.  
 Plumb. Tabac. Ver. alb.  
 —, tingling: Alum. Cocc. Lyc. Sep.  
 Hæmorrhoids: Alum. Aur. m. Bell. Calc. c. Carbo v.  
 Carlsbad. Caus. Collin. Graph. Hydras. Lach.  
 Lyc. Nat. m. Nitric ac. Phyt. Plat. Pod. Sep.  
 Sulph. Thuja.  
 —, atonic: Alum.  
 —, bleeding: Aes. h. Collin. Lyc. Nux. Phyt.

- Hæmorrhoids, burning and red : Aes. h.  
 —, dark purple : Aes. g.  
 —, painful : Aes. h. Asaf. Lyc. Nux.  
 Rectum, catarrhal secretion from : Aur. m.  
 —, contractions of (see Anus, Tenesmus) : Aes. h.  
   Caus. Cocc. Plumb.  
 —, dryness : Aes. h. Alum. Ver. alb.  
 —, foreign body in : Aes. h. Kali bi.  
 —, heat and fullness : Aes. h. Phyt.  
 —, inaction : Alum. Ver. alb.  
 —, insensibility : Lach.  
 —, pains : Alum. Carlsbad. Caus. Hydras. Nux.  
   Sepia.  
 —, — dull : Ign.  
 —, — severe : Caus. Kreos. Op. Plat. Sulph.  
 —, — as of ulceration : Phyt.  
 —, paralysis ; Tabac.  
 —, prolapsus : Aes. h. Phyt. Plumb. Pod. Sulph.  
 —, — agg. when squatting : Ruta.  
 —, rigidity : Aes. h.  
 —, spasms in, preventing walking : Caus.  
 —, swelling : Aes. h.  
 —, throbbing : Nat. m.  
 —, torpor : Op.  
 —, weight, pressure : Aes. h. Alum. Caus. Colli i.  
   Lach. Nux. Plat. Sepia. Ver. alb.

## XIII. URINE.

Urination, burning during : Lach. Lyc.

- Urination, cutting pains: Lyc.  
 —, difficult: Aes. h. Lyc. Plumb.  
 —, frequent: Pod.  
 —, intermittent: Conium.  
 —, retention: Bell. Cann. sat. Op.  
 —, at night (children): Caus.  
 Urine, dark: Aes. h.  
 —, dribbling: Plumb.  
 —, fetid: Arsen. Plumb.  
 —, high-colored: Arsen. Plumb.  
 —, increased: Ver. alb.  
 —, muddy: Aes. h.  
 —, reddish sediment: Lycop.  
 —, scanty: Arsen.

XIV. GENERATIVE ORGANS.

- Dysmenorrhœa: Collin.  
 Leucorrhœa: Graph. Sepia.  
 Menses, copious: Collin. Lach. Mag. m. Mez. Op.  
 —, delayed: Collin. Graph.  
 —, early: Mez.  
 —, irregularities of: Plat. Puls.  
 —, numbness in lower limbs during: Puls.  
 —, regular but debilitating: Graph.  
 —, scanty: Lach.  
 —, weight in pelvis and across sacrum: Puls.  
 Organs, atony of: Phos.  
 —, sexual functions of, weak: Plumb.

Ovary, irritation of left : Cinch.

Seminal emissions : Lycop. Plat.

Uterus, displacement : Plat.

——, induration : Plat.

——, irritation : Cinch.

——, prolapsus : Collin.

Varicocele : Collin.

Vulva, pains around : Sulph.

——, pruritus : Collin.

#### XV. CHEST.

Chest, compression : Bell.

——, congestion : Bry. Nux.

——, constriction : Bell.

——, oppression : Nux vom.

——, tension : Kali c.

Cough, chronic laryngeal : Nitric ac.

——, dry : Nux.

Heart, congestion : Collin.

——, hyperæsthesia : Collin.

——, palpitation : Carbo v. Caus. China. Kali c.  
Nux.

——, pulsations of, intermittent : Phyt.

——, ——, lessened : Phyt.

Respiration, difficult : Nux. Sulph.

——, impeded : Carbo v. Caus.

——, painful : Zinc.

——, short : Bry.

XVI. BACK.

Back, dorsal pains : Hydras. Kali bi. Merc. Plat. Pod.  
 —, lumbar pains : Aes. h. Bell. Bry. Kali bi.  
 Lach. Lyc. Nux. Stan. Teplitz waters. Zinc.  
 —, —, agg. before urination : Lyc.  
 —, sacral pains : Aes. g. Aes. h. Pod.  
 Shoulder, pains : Hydras. Merc.  
 —, —, right : Merc.

XVII. EXTREMITIES.

Extremities, coldness : Ferr. acet. Kali bi. Sil.  
 —, numbness : Puls.  
 —, pains on motion : Nux.  
 —, pains in : Asc. syr. Zinc.  
 —, stiffness : Nux.  
 —, weakness : Plat.  
 —, weight : Plat. Teplitz waters.  
 —, lower, coldness : Graph.  
 —, —, cramps : Nux.  
 —, —, weakness : Aes. g.  
 Feet, coldness : Cod-liver oil. Graph. Kali bi. Lach.  
 Nux. Plat. Sepia.  
 —, swelling : Nux.  
 —, soles, burning : Cod-liver oil. Sulph.  
 —, —, cold : Lach.  
 Hands, burning : Cod-liver oil.  
 Leg, coldness of outer side of left : Lach.  
 Toe, pains in right great (midnight) : Phyt.

## XVIII. SLEEP.

Sleep, restless: Bell. Nux.

——, startings in: Bell.

Sleepiness: Op. Sil.

—— after dinner with weakness: Lyc.

—— in morning: Nux.

—— in day-time: Kali bi.

—— with terrible dreams: Bell. Graph.

Sleeplessness: Graph. Nux.

## XIX. FEVER.

*a.* CHILL.

Chill and faintness: Mag. m.

—— and tired feeling: Puls.

Chilliness: Bry. Nux.

Chills, fugitive: Nux.

Cold: Bry. Puls. Sepia.

*b.* HEAT.

Heat, flushes: Sulph. ac.

——, fugitive: Nux. vom.

——, general: Nux. v.

——, intermittent: Zinc.

——, —— (afternoon): Ptelea.

Pulse, quickened: Zinc.

*c.* SWEAT.

Sweat, absence of: Arsen.

——, free: Kali bi. Nat. m.

——, profuse: Bell.



Sweat, night : Kali c.  
 — on slight motion : Nat. mur.

XX. SKIN.

Acne rosacea of face : Aes. h.  
 Eczema : Nat. m.  
 Eruptions secreting a viscous or aqueous fluid : Graph.  
 Herpetic eruptions : Graph, Sep.  
 Skin, affections of : Nat. m. Sep. Sulph.  
 —, — from cold : Nat. m.  
 —, dirty coloration : Nat. m.  
 —, dry : Arsen. Zinc.  
 —, — and rough : Graph.  
 —, — and smooth : Hydras.  
 —, irritability of : Nat. m.  
 —, pale : Alum. Plumb.  
 —, yellow coloration : Merc.

XXI. CONCOMITANTS OR GENERALITIES.

Abdomen, affections of, with nervous accidents :  
 Caus.

—, —, from multiple or difficult labors : Kali c.  
 —, symptoms of, marked : Graph.  
 —, want of power in organs of : Kali c.

Anæmic : Ferr. acet.

Asthenia : Con.

— and paleness of tissues : Caus.

Atony of the intestines : Aloc. Alum. Aur. m. Lyc.

— nervous and nutritive : Caus.

Bile, absence of : Plumb.

——, decreased : Aloe.

Bilious derangements : Bry. Merc.

Catarrh, chronic intestinal : Alum. Calc. c. Lyc. Nux.

Catarrhal affections, tendency to : Merc. Nat. m.  
Puls.

Cerebral origin : Arnica.

Children, acute enteritis in : Lyc.

——, convulsive movements : Bell.

——, badly nourished : Sil.

——, nervous : Bell.

——, nursing : Alum.

Chronic diseases of circulatory and intestinal tracts :  
Phos.

—— ——— stomach : Sepia.

——, scrofulous, suppurative diseases : Sil.

Cold, sensitiveness to : Nat. m.

Congestions of venous system : Collin. Croc. Merc.  
Zinc.

Contusions, in consequence of : Arnica.

Debility, general : Geran. Hydras. Merc.

—— with chilliness : Puls.

Digestion, slowness of : Conium.

Dyscrasia, constitutional : Calc. c.

Dyspepsia in gouty subjects : Caus.

Emaciation : Carbo v. Plumb. Sepia.

Engorgement of vena-portal system : Sulph.

Enteritis : Arsen.

- Enteritis, chronic : Ptel. trif. Zinc.
- Exhaustion : Pod.
- Fever, catarrhal or rheumatic : Acon.
- Fevers : Phos.
- Gastric conditions, marked : Aes. h. Bry. Con. Merc.  
Nat. m. Op. Puls. Sepia. Sulph.
- Gastric neurosis : Phos. Plumb.
- Heart, fatty degeneration : Nat. m.
- , valvular lesions : Nat. m.
- Hernia, strangulated : Op.
- Icterus : Cinch. Pod.
- Inertia, over-distention of intestines : Cinchon.
- Inflammatory states : Bell. Merc.
- Inflammation of abdominal organs : Arsen. Bry.
- Intestines, dryness of : Ver. alb.
- , inactive : Alum. Carbo v. China. Cinchon.  
Hep. s. Nat. m. Phos. Puls. Sil. Thuja. Ver. alb.
- , induration of membrane with narrowing :  
Ammon. m.
- , paralytic state : Bry. Hepar s. Ign. Nat. m.  
Op. Plumb. Ver. alb.
- , spasmodic contraction : Op. Plat. Zinc.
- , want of sensibility : Op.
- , weakness : Geran. m. Nat. m.
- Languor : Kali bi. Nux.
- Leanness : Nat. m. Sepia.
- Liver, diseases of : Bry. Lept. virg. Op.
- , fatty degeneration : Lyc.

- Liver, torpor : Arsen. Merc.  
——, tumefaction and venous stasis : Merc. Nat. m.  
Malaise : Alum. Merc. Stan. Sulph.  
Menstrual irregularities : Plat.  
Mercury, abuse of : Hepar s. Nitric ac.  
Mucous membranes, chronic irritability and dryness :  
    Nat. m.  
Mucus, absence of intestinal : Plumb.  
Muscular system, relaxed : Phyt. Plumb.  
Neurosis with spasms : Ign. Plat.  
Nutrition, weakened : Lyc.  
Organic, reaction : Thuja.  
Organs internal, swelling of : Sulph.  
Pancreas, torpor of : Merc.  
Paralysis, systemic : Plumb.  
Peristalsis, increase of : Calc. c.  
——, want of : Cocc. Lyc. Ver. alb.  
Peritoneum, repeated affections of : Lyc.  
Pharyngo-laryngitis : Aes. h.  
Prostration of vital forces : Phos.  
Purgatives, abuse of : Bry. Hydras. Lach. Nux. Op.  
Rectum, congestion : Hep. s.  
——, inactive : Aloe. Carbon bisulph. Cham. Hep. s.  
    Ign. Kali c. Op. Psor. Staph. Ver. alb.  
——, pressure on, from pregnancy or tumors : Op.  
Rheumatism : Bry. Caus. Puls. Sep.  
Saturnine colic : Op.  
Scarlatina, in : Lach.

Spleen, tumefaction of : Nat. m.

Tissue, wasting of : Plumb.

Tremulous sensation without trembling : Sulph. ac.

Uterine complications : Collin.

Uterus, displacement of : Plat.



# INDEX.

---

INTRODUCTORY.....	9
CONCLUSIONS (Resume).....	127
CONSTIPATION, causes.....	12, 125, 146
—, definition.....	12
—, diminution of secretion (from).....	137
—, divisions.....	38, 127
—, hæmorrhoidal.....	138
—, hepatic.....	143
—, idiopathic.....	130
—, infantile.....	146
—, irritative or sub-inflammatory.....	131
—, mechanical obstruction (from).....	138
—, paralytic.....	134
—, spasmodic or constrictive.....	132
—, symptoms.....	13
—, treatment, homœopathic.....	19
—, —, hygienic and accessory.....	16, 126
—, —, surgical or palliative.....	154
—, uterine.....	144

## REMEDIES AND INDICATIONS:

Aconite.....	112	Kali carbonicum.....	58
Aesculus glabra.....	118	Kreosotum.....	114
Aesculus hippoc.....	20	Lachesis.....	60
Agaricus mus.....	119	Leptandra virg.....	113
Aloe socotrina.....	23	Lippspringe waters.....	124
Alumina.....	24	Lycopodium.....	61
Ammonium carb.....	116	Magnesia carb.....	120
Ammonium mur.....	116	Magnesia mur.....	65
Anacardium.....	119	Massage.....	126
Apis.....	114	Menyanthes trifol.....	115
Arnica.....	115	Mercurius.....	66
Arsenicum.....	116	Mezereum.....	69
Asafoetida.....	119	Mineral waters.....	124
Asclepias syr.....	118	Natrum carb.....	120
Aurum mur.....	115	Natrum mur.....	69
Belladonna.....	27	Natrum sulph.....	120
Bryonia.....	28	Nitric acid.....	73
Calabar.....	119	Nux vomica.....	75
Calcarea acet.....	117	Opium.....	83
Calcarea carb.....	32	Paraffine.....	112
Cannabis sat.....	31	Phosphorus.....	86
Cantharis.....	114	Phytolacca.....	87
Carbo veg.....	33	Platina.....	88
Carbon bisulph.....	118	Plumbum.....	90

Carlsbad waters.....	124	Podophyllum .....	92
Causticum.....	35	Potassium bromide.....	118
Chamomilla.....	37	Prunus padus.....	116
China .....	113	Prunus spinosa.....	120
Cinchonine.....	38	Psorinum.....	94
Cocculus.....	40	Ptelea trif.....	119
Cod-liver oil.....	117	Pulsatilla.....	96
Collinsonia can.....	40	Raphanus .....	117
Colocynthis.....	117	Ratanhia .....	121
Conium mac.....	42	Rhus.....	117
Crocus .....	44	Ruta.....	121
Digitalis.....	117	Sabadilla .....	121
Electricity.....	122	Sarsaparilla.....	121
Euphrasia.....	44	Secale cornutum.....	114
Gallic acid.....	119	Selenium.....	121
Gelsemium semp.....	115	Sepia.....	97
Geranium mac.....	120	Silicea.....	99
Graphites.....	45	Stannum.....	101
Gratiola.....	48	Staphisagria .....	102
Guaræa.....	119	Stramonium.....	117
Helleborus.....	117	Sulphur.....	102
Hepar sulphur.....	49	Sulphuric acid.....	121
Hydrastis can.....	50	Tabacum .....	105
Hydrotherapy .....	126	Teplitz waters .....	124
Hyoscyamus.....	117	Thuja.....	106
Ignatia.....	54	Veratrum album.....	107
Iris vers .....	55	Verbascum.....	117
Jatropha .....	114	Zincum.....	110
Kali bichrom.....	57		

## REPERTORY.

ACCOMPANIMENTS OF THE EVACUATIONS.....	164
ACCOMPANIMENTS, GENERAL.....	170
Abdomen.....	176
Anus .....	178
Appetite.....	174
Back .....	183
Chest.....	182
Concomitants.....	185
Eructions.....	175
Extremities.....	183
Eyes .....	172
Face.....	172
Fever.....	184
<i>a.</i> chill.....	184
<i>b.</i> Heat.....	184
<i>c.</i> Sweat.....	184
Generalities.....	185
Generative organs.....	181
Head.....	171
Mind.....	170
Mood.....	170
Mouth.....	173
Nausea.....	175
Nose .....	172
Rectum .....	178
Skin.....	185
Sleep.....	184
Stomach.....	175
Urine.....	180
Vomiting .....	175
AGGRAVATIONS.....	162
CONSTITUTIONS OR TEMPERAMENTS.....	158
FORMS AND CONDITIONS.....	157
STOOL, CHARACTER.....	159









NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE



NLM 00138063 2